

THE *Spaniards* pretend to have a right to those countries stretching along this coast to the south ; though they have no settlements there : which, however, should not be esteemed so great a wonder, as that other *European* nations should leave such a fine country to a nation, so incapable of converting it to the utility of mankind.

SECTION II.

A description of the several islands, on the coasts of TERRA FIRMA, both in the South and North Seas.

THE principal islands along the coast of the general province of *Terra Firma*, are, 1. *Gorgonilla* ; 2. *Gallo* ; 3. *Gorgona* ; 4. *Palmas* ; and 5. *King's Islands*, or *Pearl Keys*, in the *South-Sea* : as also, 1. *The Bastimentoes* ; 2. *the Samballas* ; 3. *the isle of Pines* ; 4. *Golden island* ; 5. *Tortuga* ; 6. *Forta* ; 7. *Friend's island* ; 8. *Baru* ; 9. *Arenas* ; 10. *Monjes* ; 11. *Aruba* ; 12. *Curacoa* ; 13. *Bonaire* ; 14. *Tortuga* ; 15. *Margaretta* ; 16. *Trinity* ; and 17. *Oroonoko islands*, in the *North Sea*.

1. THE island of *GORGONILLA* lies in $77^{\circ} 46'$ of west longitude, and $2^{\circ} 20'$ of north latitude, opposite to *Point Manglares*, on the coast of *Popayan*, and about 7 leagues south-west from the continent. It is a small island ; but has a river, where ships may water, and anchor on a clean ground.

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2. THE island of *GALLO* lies in a deep bay, in $77^{\circ} 38'$ of west longitude, and $2^{\circ} 40'$ of north latitude; about 7 leagues north-east of *Gorgonilla*, and as many west of *Point Manglares*. There is good riding for ships on the north-east part of this bay; and the land is pretty high, well furnished with good timber, as also with several springs of fresh-water: besides, there are some other sandy bays, where a ship may be cleaned; but the water is shallow all round the island; at the north and south points of which are several rocks; some looking like barns, and others like ships under sail.

3. THE island of *GORGONA* lies in $77^{\circ} 28'$ of west longitude, and $3^{\circ} 5'$ of north latitude, about 7 leagues north-east of *Gallo*, and about 8 north-west from the continent. It is about 6 miles long, and 3 broad; being very remarkable, on account of two saddles, or risings and fallings, on the top. It is a deep water round the island, and no anchoring but at the west end, where there is a small sandy bay, and good landing. The soil is black, and deep, in the low ground: though it is a kind of red clay on the side of the high land. The island is very well furnished with several sorts of large trees, which are green and flourishing all the year; for the rains are almost perpetual hereabouts; and many small brooks issue from the high land. There are a great many little black monkeys upon the island; as also some *Indian* colonies, and a few snakes. At the east and west ends are two other small islands, which look white with the dung of wild fowls; where many periwinkles and muscles are to be had at low water; as also

great plenty of pearl-oysters, which grow to the rocks, in four, five, or six fathom water, by beards, or small roots, like a muscle.

4. THE island of *PALMAS*, lies about two leagues west from the continent, and about 19 north-east of *Gorgona*. But all these islands are uninhabited : though they have been frequently visited by the buccaneers, and other adventurers, to take in wood and water, careen their ships, and wait for *Spanish* prizes ; because these islands lie directly in the road from *Peru* to *Panama*.

5. THE *KING's ISLANDS*, or *Pearl Keys*, are a numerous cluster of low woody islands, almost in the middle of the bay of *Panama* ; stretching about 14 leagues in length, from the south-east to the north-west. The northermost of them, called *Pacheque*, or *Parhea*, is about 12 leagues south-east of *Panama* : and the southermost of them, called *St. Paul*, is 12 leagues north-west of *Point Garrachina* : but the whole range of these islands are generally about 7 leagues distant from the main land of *Darien*. Between them and the main, is a channel 6 or 7 leagues wide, where there is a good depth of water, and anchoring all the way : though the islands border so thick on each other, that they make several small, deep, narrow channels, only fit for boats to pass between most of them : and, at the south-end, about a league from the island of *St. Paul*, there is a good place for ships to careen, or hale ashore.

CHEPELIO is the most pleasant island in the bay ; being about a mile long, and almost as broad ; lying a league from the main, and 7 leagues from *Panama* ; having several sorts of delicate fruits

fruits planted there ; such as sappadilloes, which are much like bergamot-pears ; avogato-pears, as big as a large lemon ; mammees ; mammee-sappotas, which is accounted the principal fruit in the *West Indies* ; the star-apple, of the size of a large apple ; and plantains.

THE island of *Tapago*, is about six leagues south of *Panama* ; being a large mountainous place, about three miles in length, and two in breadth : but the north side of it makes so very pleasant an appearance, that it seems to be a garden of fruit-trees, inclosed with many other high trees ; for there are several plantains and bananoes that thrive well from the foot to the middle of the mountain ; and there are many cocoa-nut trees close to the sea, which afford a very agreeable prospect : besides, there is a fine small brook of fresh water, that springs out of the side of the mountain, and, gliding through the grove of fruit-trees, falls into the sea, on the north side.

THERE is a small pleasant island on the north-west side of *Tabago*, called *Tabogilla* ; and another about a mile from it on the north-east, with a good channel between them. Those called *Perico*, are three small islands, which lie before the city of *Panama*, about three miles from it ; where the great ships lie at anchor, because there is not depth of water to approach nearer the city. There are also the islands of *Otoque*, *Chuche*, *Gallera*, *Quicara*, *Sebaco*, and *Quibo* : but the last is the most remarkable, and was the place where commodore *Anson* wooded and watered, in *December*, 1741, in his way from *Paita*, to *Acapulco*.

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THE island of *Quibo*, the south-east point of which is in $7^{\circ} 20'$ of north latitude, is extremely convenient for wooding and watering: for the trees grow close to the high-water mark; and a large rapid stream of fresh water runs over the sandy beach into the sea. The whole island is of a moderate height, excepting one part; and consists of a continued wood spread all over the surface of the country, which preserves its verdure throughout the whole year. Among the other wood which commodore *Anson* found upon the island, there was abundance of cassia, and a few lime-trees: but there were no other birds than parrots, parroquets, and mackaws; of which last there were prodigious flights: there were many herds of deers; with plenty of guanos, and monkeys: though the *Spanish* prisoners asserted, that this island also abounded with tigers; and that a most mischievous serpent, called the flying snake, was frequently found in the woods, which they said darted itself from the boughs of trees, on either man or beast that came in its way; and whose sting they believed to be inevitable death. Besides these dangerous land animals, the sea, hereabouts, is infested with great numbers of alligators, of an extraordinary size: and the *English* sailors often observed, a large kind of flat-fish, jumping a considerable height out of the water; which they supposed to be the fish that is reported to destroy the pearl-divers, by clasping them in its fins, as they rise from the bottom; but the divers are now always armed with a sharp knife, which they stick into the belly of the fish whenever they are entangled, and thereby disengage themselves from its embraces.

COMMODORE *Anson*, and his people, saw great heaps of shells of fine mother of pearl, scattered up and down in different places ; which were the remains left by the pearl-fishers of *Panama* : for the pearl-oysters abound very much at *Quibo* ; being usually large, but extremely tough and unpalatable.

THE oysters most productive of pearls, are those found in considerable depths ; and the pearl partakes of the quality of the bottom on which the oyster is lodged : so that, if the bottom is muddy, the pearl is dark and ill coloured. The taking up oysters in great depths, for the sake of the pearls, is a work performed by negro slaves, of which the inhabitants of *Panama*, and of the neighbouring coast, formerly kept great numbers, who were carefully trained to the business : but these are said not to be complete divers, till they have, by degrees, been able to protract their stay under water so long, that the blood gushes out from their nose, mouth, and ears. For it is the tradition of the country, that, when this accident has once befallen them, they dive for the future with much greater facility than before : and, as the bleeding generally stops of itself, they have no apprehension, either that any inconvenience can attend it ; or that there is any probability of their ever being subjected to it again.

THESE islands are of great use to mariners who frequent the *South-Seas* ; though they are uninhabited : for they belong to the citizens of *Panama* ; who keep negroes here to plant and cultivate them, at proper seasons ; as also to sow rice in some of the small islands : but the large ones are wholly uncultivated,

uncultivated, and overrun with weeds ; notwithstanding their soil seems to be productive of any tropical vegetables.

THE islands of *Terra Firma*, along the coast of the *North-Sea*, are as follow.

1. THE *BASTIMENTOES* are a few small uninhabited islands, at the mouth of the bay of *Nombre de Dios*, about half a mile from the coast of *Terra Firma proper*, and about five leagues east of *Porto Bello*. They are all of them pretty high, and cloathed with woods : there is also a spring of good water upon one of them ; and they all together make a very good harbour, between them and the isthmus : but they are chiefly remarkable for being the station of the *British* Squadron, commanded by admiral *Hosier*, in 1727, when his orders restricted him from taking and destroying the *Spanish* fleet and galleons.

2. THE *SAMBALLAS*, or *Sambaloes*, are a great multitude of little uninhabited islands, scattered in a row, at very unequal distances, along the east part of the isthmus, from *Nombre de Dios* to the isle of *Pines* ; some being three or four miles from the shore, others less, and the same distance from one another ; which, with the hills and woods of the adjacent shore, make a delightful landscape off at sea. There are several navigable channels between the islands ; and the sea is also navigable from end to end, between the whole range and the isthmus ; with good anchorage every where, in hard sandy ground ; as also good landing on the islands, and on the main. Let the winds be how they will, there is always a good place for any number of ships to ride at, on the inside of some of
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of these little keys, or islands : on which account, the *Samballas*, and particularly *La Sound's Key*, or *Springer's Key*, were the greatest rendezvous of the buccaneers on this coast : for they not only afford shell-fish, and other refreshments ; but are covered with variety of trees, yield some wells of fresh water, and have good shelter for careening.

3. THE island of *PINES* is a small uninhabited place, about three leagues east of the *Samballas*, and is very remarkable off at sea ; being covered with tall trees, and having a fine rivulet of fresh water.

4. *GOLDEN ISLAND* lies at the mouth of the gulph of *Darien*, about four leagues east of the isle of *Pines*. It is small, steep, rocky, covered with trees or shrubs, and uninhabited ; having a fine deep channel between it and the continent. This island was recommended to the *Scotch East India* company, as a proper place for establishing their first colony in *America* : but the adventurers found it too barren a spot, and were obliged to remove to the opposite shore ; which they were soon afterwards compelled to abandon, and to relinquish their enterprize, as has been above related *. There is another low, swampy island, between this and the isle of *Pines* ; which is so much beset with mangroves, that it is difficult to go ashore ; and ships can hardly pass between this island and the isthmus, even at high water.

5. 6. 7. 8. *TORTUGA*, *Forta*, *Friend's Island*, and *Baru*, are four little islands, lying scattered among some others, at a small distance from each other ; between 9° and $9^{\circ} 48'$ of north latitude :
the

* See this Volume, p. 454.

the island of *Tortuga* being about 18 leagues east of *Golden* island. 9. *Arenas* is a small island opposite to the mouth of the river *Magdalena*; about 10 leagues north of the continent, and about 23 north-east of *Cartbagen*a. 10. *Monjes* are small islands at the mouth of the gulph of *Venezuela*. But none of all these islands are inhabited, or of any consequence.

11. 12. 13. 14. *ARUBA*, *Curacoa*, *Bonaire*, and *Tortuga*, with *Margaretta*, *Trinity*, and some other inferior places, such as *Orchilla*, *Roca*, and *Aves*; are what properly form the *Little Antilles* islands; being situated between $51^{\circ} 28'$, and $69^{\circ} 40'$ of west longitude; and between $9^{\circ} 37'$, and $12^{\circ} 38'$ of north latitude; extending from the gulph of *Venezuela* to the gulph of *Paria*: some of them being about 40 leagues north of the coast of *Venezuela*, and others very near it: but none of them are possessed by the *Spaniards*, except *Margaretta* and *Trinity*, for the others are subject to the *Dutch*, and should be treated of under the grand division of the *American* islands.

15. THE island of *MARGARETTA*, or *Santa Margareta de las Caraccas*, is situated between 64° and $64^{\circ} 20'$ of west longitude, and between $10^{\circ} 54'$ and $11^{\circ} 15'$ of north latitude; opposite to the gulph of *Caracca*, or *Curiaco*, on the coast of the *Caraccas*, from which it is separated by a streight, about seven or eight leagues over. It is about 48 miles in length from east to west, and about 24 in breadth from north to south; being about 108 miles in circumference; and was discovered by *Christopher Columbus*, in 1498, when he made his third voyage to *America*. The island is very
fertile

fertile in maize, fruit, and many *European* vegetables : but the inhabitants are obliged to import all the water they drink from the continent ; and there is little wood, or pasture, on the island ; though what there is, has a perpetual verdure, and affords an agreeable prospect. This island is under the command of a particular governor, who has his residence at the town of *Monpadre*, which is on the east cape, and is defended by a good fort : but there is no other place of consequence in the country. The island was formerly remarkable for its fine pearl-fishery ; which seems to be exhausted at present. The *Dutch* took *Margaretta*, in 1620, when they demolished the castle, and plundered the town : upon which, the *Spaniards* retired to the continent ; leaving the island to be inhabited only by the native *Indians*, and a few mulattoes, who were frequently plundered and carried off by the buccaneers.

16. THE island of *TRINITY*, or *Trinidad*, is situated near the mouth of the river *Oroonoko*, opposite to the east end of the province of *New Andalusia* ; from which it is distant about three leagues, and 38 leagues south-west of the island of *Margaretta*. It is about 90 miles long, and 60 broad : lying between $60^{\circ} 26'$, and $62^{\circ} 20'$ of west longitude ; and between $9^{\circ} 37'$, and $10^{\circ} 27'$ of north latitude ; the north end of it being about 12 leagues south east of the island of *Tabago*, which is one of the neutral islands in dispute between the crowns of *Great Britain* and *France*.

THIS island was also discovered by *Christopher Columbus*, in 1498 : but the air is esteemed unhealthy ; though the soil is tolerably fertile, producing

ducing sugar, cotton, *Indian* corn, and fruits ; with the best tobacco that is cultivated by the *Spaniards* : besides, it abounds with wild hogs and fowl. The principal town is called *St. Joseph* ; which stands on a bay, at the north-west part of the island, and was taken by Sir *Walter Raleigh*, in 1595 ; as also by the *French*, in 1676, who plundered the place, and extorted 80,000 pieces of eight, or 14,333 *l.* 6 *s.* sterling, to ransom it from flames.

17. THE islands of *OROONOKO* are several little islands, lying in the mouth of that river : but none of them are inhabited.

It should be observed, that there are several pearl fisheries all along the coast from *Carthagera* to *Venezuela* ; particularly those of *Santa Martha*, *Rancheria* on the coast of *Ria de la Hacha*, *Comanagotta* in the gulph of *Curiaco*, and at the island of *Margaretta* ; where the time of the fishery is from *October* to *March* ; when 10 or 12 barks sail from *Carthagera*, escorted by some men of war, called the *Armadilla* ; and these ships, having made their tour, return again to *Carthagera*, which is the centre of the pearl trade : but the pearls are of different values, according to their fineness and magnitude.

S E C T I O N III.

A description of the country of GUIANA: Its three divisions, of Dutch GUIANA, or Surinam; French GUIANA, or Cayenne; and Indian GUIANA, or Caribana: with an account of the commerce carried on by the Dutch and French colonists.

THE province of *GUIANA* is bounded by the mouth of the river *Oroonoko*, and the *Northern*, or *Atlantic Ocean*, on the north and east; by the country of the *Amazons*, on the south; and by the provinces of *New Andalusia*, and *Granada*, on the west. It extends from $49^{\circ} 20'$ to 64° of west longitude; and from the equator to 9° of north latitude: being about 1200 miles in extent, along the *Atlantic Ocean*, from the mouth of the river *Oroonoko*, to the mouth of the river of *Amazons*; and about 540 miles from north to south.

THE best geographers divide this territory into two parts; *Guiana-Proprie*, called also *El Dorado*, or the *Gold Country*, by the *Spaniards*, on account of the immense riches it was once supposed to contain; and *Caribana*, or *Caribiana*: the former of which is properly the inland country, and the latter lies along the coast. All that part of the coast, which lies to the south of the north cape, has been yielded to the crown of *Portugal*, and is included as a part of *Brazil*. The *French* have some settlements in the isle of *Cayenne*, as also upon the adjacent coast. And the *Dutch* have *Surinam*. But all the interior part of the country is inhabited by

several numerous nations of *Indians* ; who are reported to have some flourishing cities, a regular polity, with the same manners, customs, and religion, as were established among the *Peruvians*.

THE sea coast of this country is generally low, and subject to inundations, from a multitude of rivers, that run precipitately from the mountains, in the inland country, during the rainy season. The air is excessive hot, and very unhealthful ; especially in such parts of the country as are not cleared of woods : but there are some situations tolerably cool and healthful, where the air has a free passage, and is uninfected by the ooze and salt-marshes.

THERE are several considerable rivers, besides those of *Oroonoko*, and the river of *Amazons* ; the principal of which are, the *Esequibe*, *Berbie*, *Corretine*, *Surinam*, and *Maroni* : the *Mawarpari*, *Moraga*, *Uraque*, *Maiacaret*, *Cayenne*, and *Oyapoc* : as also the *Arcoa*, *Casipura*, *Corassune*, *Aricary*, and *Machacari* ; with some others that empty themselves into the *Oroonoko*, and the *Atlantic*.

I. *Dutch GUIANA* extends along the coast, from the mouth of the river *Oroonoko*, in 9° of north latitude, to the river *Maroni*, where the *English* formerly built a little fort, in $6^{\circ} 20'$ of north latitude. The chief settlement is that of *Surinam*, which is situated 5 leagues within the river of the same name, in $6^{\circ} 16'$ of north latitude : but they have given the name of *Surinam* to all the country, for several hundred miles about this town ; and look upon themselves as sovereigns of it : for, indeed, this is the only part of the continent of *America* left in the possession of the *Dutch*,
since

since the *Portuguese* drove them from *Brazil*, and the *English* expelled them from *New-York*.

THE river of *Surinam* has sand-banks at its mouth, over which there is three fathom water at high tide ; it being about a league broad, and continuing the same breadth to the place where the river *Commewine* falls into it: but the united rivers are only about a league over above their conflux ; though so deep, that they are navigable for large vessels 30 leagues up into the country.

THE *Dutch* have a fort called *Zelandia*, two leagues above the mouth of the river *Surinam*, built with bricks : and also a small town, called *Paramaraibo*, containing about 400 houses. The *French* seized upon this fort, in the year 1640 : but soon abandoned it, as they found the country very unwholesome : whereupon the *English* took possession of it ; though they made no difficulty of surrendering it to the *Dutch*, in the reign of king *Charles II.* in consideration of the states relinquishing their pretensions to *New York*, and other places, in the northern colonies, which had been taken from them by the *English*. However, the *Dutch* afterwards cut down so many trees, that they gave the sun and wind an opportunity of drying the soil ; which rendered the climate much more healthy and pleasant.

THIS colony is called *The Society of Surinam* ; because it is the joint property of the *Dutch West-India* company, the city of *Amsterdam*, and the lord of *Somelsdyk* : but the sovereignty of it belongs to the states-general ; who, in 1683, granted a patent, containing 32 articles, in favour of the

West-India company, as also for the security and advantage of the colonists.

THE great number of *Dutch* people, who have made plantations here, have raised this colony to such a very flourishing condition, that it has extended itself about 100 miles above the mouth of the river *Surinam*, where the mountains serve them as a barrier against the incursions of the *Indians*, who cannot be civilized. Besides, there are some other towns in this province: as *Machariby*, on the eastern banks of the river *Corretine*, about 60 miles south-west of the town of *Surinam*; *Mapueta*, seven miles north-west of *Machariby*; *Kyckoveral*, 40 miles north-west of *Mapueta*; *Warawalli*, 44 miles west of the town of *Surinam*; the *Dutch Colony*, 18 miles north of *Warawalli*: *New Zeland*, 122 miles north-west of *Surinam* town; *New Middleburg*, nine miles west of *New Zeland*; and some others of no consequence. There are between seven and eight hundred families in the colony, besides *Indians*, and a great number of negroes; who cultivate about 400 plantations, which are situated along the rivers, and afford immense profits to the proprietors.

THE chief trade of this colony, consists in the product of this country, which is sugar, tobacco, coffee, gums, wood for dying, cotton, flax, and skins, that are sent to *Holland*, in exchange for *European* commodities.

THIS colony is governed by a college, or council, of ten directors, at *Amsterdam*; five of whom are chosen by the magistrates of that city, four by the *West-India* company, and one by the lord of *Somelsdyk*: but, though these directors have the nomination,

nomination, the governor must be approved by the states-general, and take an oath to them as well as to the directors.

THERE are only three churches in the whole province, which is divided into eight parts, and each division has a company of militia: besides which, there are four companies of regular soldiers, for the defence of the colony; all of whom are under the command of the governor, who, upon any extraordinary matters, is obliged to consult with the political council, of which he is chairman, as well as of the court of justice.

II. *FRENCH GUIANA*, called *Old Cayenne*, or *Equinoctial France*, because it reaches so near the equator, extends from the eastern banks of the river *Maroni*, in 55 degrees of west longitude, and $6^{\circ} 24'$ of north latitude; to *Cape d' Orange*, in $51^{\circ} 40'$ of west longitude, and $4^{\circ} 10'$ of north latitude; being about 240 miles along the coast. The principal settlement is the island of *Cayenne*, which lies at the mouth of a river of the same name, about 100 miles north-west of *Cape d' Orange*; being about 17 leagues in circumference, five of which are washed by the sea, and the rest by the two branches of the river. The *French* have erected a fort, on a little rising ground, at the point of the island; but it has no other fresh water than what is preserved in cisterns. There is good anchoring near the foot of the fort, where above a hundred ships may ride in security: and boats may come up without danger, on each side of the point of land on which the fort stands, till within a foot of the shore. There are some pleasant hills, very convenient for settlements; as also

several meadows, producing very good grass, in the island, which is almost cut in two by a salt water river, that affords an easy communication between the plantations, and facilitates the transportation of merchandize: but the island has also several springs, which afford good water for drinking, and are very proper to turn sugar-mills.

THE *French* first established themselves here, in 1635, under the sieur *Poncet* of *Bretigny*, who was massacred by the *Indians*; but the remains of his colony defended themselves, till they received a reinforcement: though they afterwards abandoned it; when it was taken possession of by the *English*, who, in 1664, were expelled by the *French*: in 1676, it was taken by the *Dutch*; but the *French* retook it the next year, and have retained the possession of it ever since.

NEAR the fort of *St. Lewis*, is a village containing about 200 houses, inhabited by tradesmen, and the soldiers in garrison. About 12 miles north-east of the fort, is another village, called *Lance de Remire*, the lower part of which is inhabited by 60 *Jews*, and 80 negroes; but on the upper part are the habitations of 60 *French*, and 25 negroes. There are also several other plantations scattered up and down the island: besides, as the *French* were inclinable to extend themselves on the main, they have built a redoubt on one side of the river, to defend its entrance. Further in land, they have another fort, called *Sinarary*, which serves them instead of an advanced post, where they have 80 men in garrison. And there are some other small islands near the great one; as the *Devil's Island*, to the north-west; and those of
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Remire to the north-east; each of them about three leagues distant from *Cayenne*.

THE principal trade of *Cayenne* consists in sugar, rocou, indigo, cotton, and vanilla. The commodities sent from *France* for *Cayenne*, are chiefly corn, wine, brandy, linnen-cloth, mercury, hardware, and especially salted-flesh; because large cattle are scarce in the island, and no oxen are allowed to be butchered, without a licence from the governor.

III. *INDIAN GUIANA*, or *Caribana*, is reported to contain all the country between *Cape d' Orange*, and the river of the *Amazons*; being about 240 miles along the coast, which is very dangerous, on account of the high tides, and great surges of the sea: but the air is too unwholesome for *Europeans*, who fall sick on board their ships, whenever their business obliges them to make any considerable stay: even the natives are put to great inconvenience; for they have no ground fit to build houses upon; and, therefore, are obliged to make their huts in trees, which have more the appearance of large birds-nests, than the habitations of human beings.

THE country, between *Cape d' Orange*, and the north cape, is pretty well known to the *English*, *French*, and *Dutch*; who frequently go there in barks, to trade with the natives for seals: but the country is very little known from the north cape to the equator.

DISSERTATION I.

On the SPANISH Colonies in SOUTH AMERICA.

The nature of colonies ; and how they were established in AMERICA : with observations on the gold and silver brought from thence into Europe, and re-exported to Asia. The claim of the Spaniards to the dominion of the American Seas ; with remarks thereon. Their polity in their colonies ; and in what manner their trade is conducted by the galleons, and register ships. An estimate of the value of the gold, silver, and other commodities, annually imported into Spain, from AMERICA : with reasons why the former country has been rather impoverished than enriched by the latter.

SOME of the ancient Greeks endeavoured to persuade their countrymen, that all the western nations were derived and peopled from them : but their opinion of being *Aborigines*, or of springing out of the earth where they inhabited, ought rather to be looked upon as a frivolous notion in their philosophy, than an error in their history : for, in arguing against their conceit, why might not the conclusion be made, that the primitive *Grecians* were only colonies from the south-east parts, instead of their land peopling itself ; unless they pretended to prove, that their soil was better able, and more disposed, to bear mankind than any other ? The *Americans* have always retained the same opinion as the *Grecians* : but it is highly probable,

probable, that their extensive tract of country was originally peopled by sea, either by the *Phenicians*, or *Carthaginians*. If the *Americans* were pagans, so were the *Europeans*: and, if it is urged, that they went naked, or painted their bodies, when *Columbus* discovered their country; it is no more than what was done by the *Britons*, when their island was invaded by *Cæsar*; who found their ideas of religion, their form of government, their customs and manners, as imperfect and uncivilized as the *Spaniards* first found the *Americans*: though this ought not to be alledged against the *Britons* in particular; because the same may be said of all the northern nations in general, till they were refined by the *Roman* polity, or improved by the doctrine of christianity. Besides, when *Cæsar* discovered *Britain*, he took it for a new world; being uncertain whether it was an island, or a distinct continent; and *Columbus* was under the same uncertainty upon the discovery of the island of *Cuba*: nor were the *Romans* less transported at their *British* acquisitions, than the *Spaniards* were at their *American* conquests: but the *Roman* provinces were like so many saplings, that impoverished the mother root; while those which the *Spaniards* established in *America*, gave nutriment and strength to their mother country, which was languishing beneath her own infirmities.

WHEN the world became populous, it was necessary for some states to make migrations, for the foundations of others: thus the *Phenicians* planted *Carthage*; and the *Romans* extended their provinces throughout the greatest parts of *Europe*, and *Asia*, as also in the most desirable parts of *Africa*: but colonies

colonies have properly three kinds of distinctions. The *First*, are those serving to ease, or discharge, the inhabitants of a country ; where the people are become too numerous for some of them to get subsistence, without great inconvenience to others. The *Second*, are those established by victorious princes and people, in the middle of vanquished nations, to keep them in awe and obedience. And the *Third*, are distinguished by the name of commercial colonies ; because trade should be the sole occasion and object of such settlements.

It was by means of the *First* kind of colonies, that, some ages after the deluge, first the eastern, and successively all the other parts of the earth, became inhabited : for, without mentioning any thing of the *Phenician* and *Grecian* colonies, it is well known, that it was for the establishment of such settlements, that the northern nations overrun *Gaul*, *Italy*, and the southern parts of *Europe* ; where, after several long and bloody military contentions, they divided the country with the ancient inhabitants.

THE *Romans* used the *Second* kind of colonies more than any other people ; principally to secure the conquests they had made from east to west, and to prevent the necessity of constant standing armies : which policy they practised, till their conquests grew too numerous, the conquered countries too distant, and their empire too unwieldy to be managed by their native force ; so that they became the slaves of those whom they conquered.

THE *Third* sort of colonies are for trade ; being intended to encrease the wealth and power of the native kingdom ; to which they will abundantly contribute,

contribute, if conducted with prudent management, governed by salutary laws, and kept under a proper regulation. No nation has, or ever had, all the materials of commerce within itself: no climate produces all commodities: and, yet it is the interest, pleasure, or convenience of every people, not only to use or trade in most, or all of them; but to raise such things themselves, rather than to purchase them from others; unless in some instances, when they barter their own commodities for them, to employ as many, or more, people at home in that exchange, and such persons as would lose their employment, if these commodities were purchased from abroad.

INDEED the *Spaniards*, after the discovery of *America*, set up a fourth pretence for the colonization of countries; which was the conversion of pagans to the christian religion: but, in this, they had no more sincerity than those *Mabometans* that invaded *Spain*, and, for many years, kept possession of a great part of the country.

THE present colonies of commerce are those established by the *Spaniards*, *Portuguese*, *English*, *French*, *Dutch*, and *Danes*, within these two last centuries; and which they continue still to establish in several parts of *Asia*, and *America*; either to keep up a regular commerce with the natives, to cultivate the ground, or to embowel the mines. The principal colonies, of this kind, are on the southern and northern continents, as also in the islands of *America*; particularly *Chili*, *Peru*, *Brazil*, *Guiana*, *Mexico*, *Canada*, *Louisiana*, *Carolina*, *Virginia*, *Maryland*, *Pensylvania*, *New England*, *Acadia*, and *Hudson's Bay*; with the *Caribees*, *Jamaica*,

maica, Cuba, Domingo, and other islands. These colonies, in *Africa*, are along the coast of *Guinea*, the cape of *Good Hope*, and all those extensive coasts from thence as far as to the *Red Sea*. And, in *Asia*, there are the famous *Batavia* of the *Dutch*; *Goa* and *Diu* of the *Portuguese*; *Madras, Bombay*, and *Fort William*, of the *English*; *Pondicherry* of the *French*; and some other less considerable places.

PLANTATIONS are among ancient, primitive, and heroical works. When the world was young, it begat many children: though, lord *Bacon* says, now it is old, it begets fewer; for new plantations may justly be accounted the children of former kingdoms. But the same noble author says, he likes a plantation in a pure soil: that is, where people are not displanted, to the end to plant in others: for else, it is rather an extirpation, than a plantation.

MERCANTILE people have been generally prompted to enter upon well-grounded and practicable adventures; among which, the discovery of unknown lands have merited the first place in the attention of the wisest and greatest men. These are things that carry along with them advantages in many respects, and are valuable in their own nature: for there is nothing chimerical in their intention; but glory and profit have attended them in the event: it being to such adventures, and discoveries, that all maritime powers have been indebted for the increase of their trade and navigation; especially those *European* states, whose riches flow in upon them from their settlements and plantations in *America*.

IT

It has been fully shewn, in the second and third chapters of PART I. how the discovery of the new world was reserved for *Christopher Columbus*; and in what manner he accomplished the noblest undertaking that ever inspired the human mind. The invention of the mariner's compass was made about the year 1302: the *Canaries* were discovered, or retrieved, in 1417: the *Portuguese* found out the coast of *Guinea*, in 1471; and soon after proceeded by sea to the *East Indies*: while *Christopher Columbus*, in 1492, discovered *America* for the *Spaniards*; the benefit of which discovery was lost to the *Genoese*, by their insolence; to the *Portuguese*, by their ungenerous treatment of *Columbus*; and to the *English*, by the unhappy accident of his brother *Bartholomew* falling into the hands of pirates, as he was upon his voyage to communicate the scheme to *Henry VII.* and to request his patronage in the undertaking. It has also been represented, in the fourth and fifth chapters of PART I. how those adventurers who succeeded *Columbus*, compleated the discovery of *America*: and it has been shewn, that there is the highest probability of discovering a north-east, or north-west passage, to the *East* or *West Indies*: however, the empire of his Catholic majesty in *America*, is a sufficient demonstration, that marvellous projects are not always chimerical.

THE *Greeks* and *Romans* were eminent for their military discipline: but what were the conquests, and acquisitions, of *Alexander*, or *Cæsar*, in comparison of those which were made by the *Spaniards* in *America*; where they subdued a dominion of almost seven thousand miles in extent? *Alexander* was master of *Greece*, and conqueror of *Persia*:
Cæsar

Cæsar made himself emperor of *Rome*, and governed all her extensive provinces: but *Charles V.* of *Spain*, surpassed them both in power; being king of that country, emperor of *Germany*, lord of the greatest part of *Italy*, and sovereign of the *Netherlands*; besides his possessions in *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*.

THE rapidity of the *Spanish* conquests were owing to their skill in navigation, the use of fire-arms, and the temper of their swords; which made the naked *Indians* fall an easy sacrifice to their merciless invaders; who are far from being meritorious of the name of conquerors; because their expeditions were no more than bloody executions, and barbarous massacres, upon an innocent and unresisting people.

DE la VEGA observes, that the *Spaniards* introduced the christian religion, together with the arts and sciences, into *America*: in return for which, *Spain*, and the rest of *Europe*, became possessed of an immense treasure in gold, silver, and precious stones. But, considering the inexplicable devastations, and unparalleled oppressions, which the miserable *Indians* suffered, by the usurpations and tyrannies of the *Spaniards*; how many millions were entirely extirpated, and how many more enslaved; as also, that the *Spaniards*, with the christian religion, introduced the inquisition, with all its terrors, whereby they have corrupted the christian doctrines, and the morals of the *Indians*; it may be fairly concluded, that the *Indians* have been losers by their alteration.

THE *Spanish* adventurers cloaked all their barbarities under the mask of religion, and committed
such

such enormities, that the bare recollection of them are shocking to human nature ; murdering the *Indians* by thousands with the sword, hunting and tearing them to pieces with their dogs, enslaving them in their mines, or torturing them with the utmost barbarity either in wantonness of cruelty, or through excess of avarice. For the Bishop of *Chiapa* says, that, by a modest computation, the number of *Indians* murdered in cold blood, exceeded the number of people living in *Europe*. Notwithstanding, *Ovalle* remarks, that their Catholic majesties, *Ferdinand* and *Isabella*, most strictly recommended to the adventurers and governors, that they should always have before their eyes, in the conquest of the new world, not so much the dilatation of their royal power and monarchy, as the propagation of the gospel, and the kind usage of the *Indians*, whose conversion they had principally at heart. But the continued cruelties of the *Spaniards*, occasioned it to be truly represented to the court of *Spain*, that *America* would soon be depopulated, if a seasonable prevention was not put to these outrages : upon which, the emperor *Charles* V. caused particular orders to be drawn up in favour of the *Indians*, requiring them to be treated as subjects, and not as slaves : though all his ordinances were disregarded by the *Spaniards*.

THE *Pizarro*'s, *Almagro*, *Beldivia*, and the other conquerors of *South America*, were far from being men of any illustrious extraction : though, with all their imperfections, it must be acknowledged, they were possessed of some virtues ; such as courage, fortitude, and temperance : otherwise they would never have struggled so many years against *

winds

* See this Volume p. 172, and 357.

winds and seas, endured the extremities of heat and cold, or traversed countries almost impenetrable and impassable. But patience seems to have been a virtue adapted to the inhabitants of *Spain* : and, it has been conjectured, no other nation would have persisted with the same indefatigable industry, in the prosecution of these discoveries. However, it should be remembered, that the *Spaniards*, in the time of *Columbus*, were the greatest maritime power in *Europe* : besides, they had some advantage over the other *Europeans* in their situation ; because they lay the farthest westward of any country in the old world ; and their climate had a nearer resemblance to that of *Peru*, than the countries of their northern neighbours.

THE success of the *Spaniards* in *America*, caused their shipping to increase beyond that of any other *European* power ; because, they had occasion, in their beginning there, for great number of transports, to carry men, horses, other animals, and stores of every kind, to their new acquisitions : in which flourishing condition they continued for a great part of the long reigns of their king *Philip* II^d, and our queen *Elizabeth* ; who had not a fleet to give their *Armada* battle ; and, perhaps, *Spain* might have succeeded in her invasion, if Providence had not favourably interposed a tempest for the protection of *England* ; whose queen knew to what causes she owed her danger and deliverance, which made her very attentive to the planting of colonies in *America*. Death prevented this excellent monarch from executing her great designs : but some of her wisest subjects, and most gallant seamen, entered so deeply into the plan, and laid it

it so nearly to their hearts, that what she intended in the settlement of *Virginia*, was pretty well effected in the reign of *James Ist*; though the undertaking was carried on with great difficulty, upon account of his timorous councils; because he could not gain the approbation of the *Spaniards*, of whom he stood in servile awe: but his shame, with much debate, got the ascendancy over his fears; and that fund of treasure was opened to *Great Britain*.

THIS, with what else has been since executed in favour of *Great Britain*, both on the continent and in the islands of *America*, has conveyed such an additional weight of maritime force to the natural strength which she owes to her situation, that she would have always been able, by wise management, as she now is, to give law on the ocean. *Spain* has greater countries, and more subjects, in *America*, than *Great-Britain*: but the former does not navigate a tenth part of the shipping in that trade, as the latter does. The *British* dominions in *America*, by a happy kind of poverty, have no mines of gold or silver: therefore, the *British* subjects must be contented to deal in sugar, rum, rice, tobacco, horses, beef, corn, fish, lumber, and other commodities that require great stowage; the perpetual carriage of which must employ above 100,000 tons of shipping; and the value of 5000*l.* in those wares, will load a vessel, which, in the *Spanish* trade, would be freighted homeward with 500,000 *l.* sterling.

GOLD and silver, in fact, are only commodities; though they ascertain the values of all others: thus, in *England*, about 800 years ago, an ox sold for 2*s.* 6*d.* a cow for 2*s.* a sheep for 1*s.* and a

swine for 8 *d.* which could be only owing to the little foreign trade the nation then had, and consequently to the little quantity of gold and silver trade had then brought in. But if it should be asked, What is the reason, that, at present, all things are naturally so much advanced in price, to what they were in those days ? The answer is, That the quantities of gold and silver brought to *Europe*, since the progress made by the *Spaniards* and *Portuguese* in *America*, have made those metals more common, and of less value, than formerly : so that 20*s.* will now scarcely purchase what 1*s.* would, before the discovery of *Peru* and *Brazil*.

GOLD and silver are the natives of few countries, and the propriety of few persons ; therefore, can be obtained by others only by their consent, or by compulsion : and, consequently, no state can grow more considerable than their native soil will make them, without plundering their neighbours, or persuading them to part with it willingly ; which can be done only by arms or trade. No soil produces all things, and no nation works all sorts of manufactures, which are of common and necessary use : nor can any man, by his own skill and labour, make or acquire any considerable part of such things as he wants or desires ; so that he can have no means of obtaining them, but by exchanging superfluities for necessaries. However, it frequently happens, that the person who is possessed of the commodity which one man desires, has no occasion for what he has to give in lieu of it, or not a sufficiency of it to answer the value of what he parts with : upon which account, something else must be found out to make the account

account even. From hence, mankind have found themselves under a necessity to agree upon some universal commodity, which shall measure the value of all the rest, and at last balance all accounts : but nothing has been discovered, that will answer the purpose so effectually as gold and silver : because their contexture hinders them from being perishable ; their divisibility qualifies them to answer all occasions ; their scarcity enhances their price, so as to make a great value lie in a little compass, and easily portable ; besides, the more regular and equal supplies of them, than of other commodities, render them proper standards for the valuation of other things : therefore, these metals, by general and almost universal agreement, are mediums of commerce, the ballance of all trade, and the ultimate view, or chief advantage, proposed by it. But it is ridiculous to imagine, that any precautions, or the greatest penalties, will keep gold or silver in any country, where it is the interest of numbers to carry it out ; as it particularly is with the *Spaniards* in *America*, who take all opportunities of defrauding their sovereign of his fifth, and of exchanging their gold or silver for such *European* commodities as they can get from strangers.

THE treasures possessed by the *Spaniards* in *America*, have, in the opinion of *De la Vega*, tended to impoverish their mother country, which has been declining ever since : for these riches have inclined the principal *Spaniards* to pride, ambition, luxury, and indolence. “ The truth is, says the royal historian, the poor are become much poorer than formerly : for the quantity of money be-

“ ing so greatly increased, has enhanced the price
 “ of provisions to such a degree, that the poor
 “ starve by the abundance of the rich :” besides,
 by such an introduction of wealth, the generality
 of mankind are become more depraved and dis-
 contented ; nations, once formidable, and dreaded
 by all the world, being now rendered impotent,
 despicable, and effeminate, by the corruption of
 riches.

THERE is an *active*, and a *passive* commerce, in
 all nations : the former signifies the exportation
 of those commodities wherewith a kingdom trades,
 when they are sent in kind for the use of other
 nations : and the latter implies the reverse ; being
 the importation of those commodities which fo-
 reigners send for the use of such a kingdom : so
 that, when the quantities exported and imported
 are unequal, this inequality will shew, whether the
 ballance of trade is favourable to, or against, that
 nation. *Spain* has languished under a *passive* com-
 merce, ever since the discovery of *America* ; where-
 by the treasures of her mines are dug up for other
 nations, who carry on an *active* trade, so as to sup-
 ply the *Spaniards* either with the necessaries or
 luxuries of life : though, in the opinion of the
 marquis *Belloni*, this is the present situation of all
 the kingdoms in *Europe*, with respect to the trade
 which they carry on with the *East-Indies*. For the
 great quantities of jewels and manufactures, li-
 quors and species, brought from thence, render
 the trade of the *East-Indies* so exorbitant, that the
 great advantage the *European* kingdoms receive
 from the *West-Indies*, with the great quantities of
 gold and silver, and other useful things brought
 from

from thence, are not sufficient to compensate the loss sustained by that expensive trade : which gives just ground to make it a question, Whether the money that is brought from *America*, is more considerable than what is exported by the *Europeans* to *Asia* ?

HOWEVER, this is too hasty a conclusion : for *Uztariz*, a noble *Spanish* writer, asserts, that from the year 1492, to 1724, the gold and silver brought from *America* into *Spain*, amounted to above five thousand millions of dollars ; which, one year with another, is more than twenty-one millions and a half, or upwards of five millions sterling, yearly. Besides, there are great quantities of gold and silver either coined, or in bullion, brought from the *Spanish West-Indies*, by the *English* and *Dutch*, in the returns of the illicit trade which they carry on with the *Spaniards* : and there are also immense treasures of gold brought from the *Brasils*, which have prodigiously increased the remittances from *America* to *Europe*.

BARON *Montesquieu* remarks, that the species of *Europe* was doubled soon after the conquests of *Mexico* and *Peru* ; which appeared from the price of commodities, that was doubled every where, as the specie of *Europe* doubled. The profit of *Spain* diminished in the same proportion, and the *Spaniards* had every year the same quantity of metals, which was become by one half less precious. In double the time, the specie still doubled ; and the profit still diminished another half. By this progression, of doubling and doubling, the cause and impotency of the wealth of *Spain* is easy to be discovered : for, it is upwards of 200 years since

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they worked their *Indian* mines ; and the present quantity of specie in the trading world, compared to that before the discovery of the *Indies*, has been supposed to be as 32 to 1 ; that is, it has been doubled five times ; and, in 200 years more, it may be doubled again, so as to make it 64 to 1.

THE emperor *Charles* Vth was so sensible of the bad consequences of the trade to the *East-Indies*, that he was used to say, “ It had been well if those “ countries had never been discovered ; or at least “ not so much frequented :” for, as Sir *William Monson* observes, the *Europeans* have enriched the *Asiatics* with the wealth of *Europe* and *America* ; at the same time as they have decreased the trades of all the civilized nations ; of which the *English* have sufficient proof by their unprofitable trade to *India*.

THE *Spaniards* have sometimes thought fit to speak favourably of the community of the sea, and the freedom of navigation : but, when it was for their present purpose, they have as severely maintained the particular dominion of it as any other nation : nor must it be forgot, that several *German* authors, in the titles of *Charles* Vth, emperor and king of *Spain*, stile him, *King of the islands and continent of the Indies, and of the ocean* ; though the use of the sea is declared to be free, by the common law of *Castile*. It is indisputable that some particular seas are subject to the sovereignty of some particular states ; as the *British* and *Adriatic* seas, to *Great Britain* and *Venice* : but it is impossible to possess the whole ocean, or to have a title to the dominion of it, unless a prince or people were sovereigns of the whole world : for who can
say,

say, in the midst of the vast deep, such a channel, or such a space, is mine ? and who has a right to exclude any one a passage through the main ? However, many of the *Portuguese* were formerly of opinion, that their king had acquired such a right to the great ocean of the *West-Indies*, that he might lawfully refuse a passage through it to other nations. The *Spaniards* seem likewise to be of opinion, that no people, but themselves, have a right to sail through the spacious sea that leads to *America* ; as if they also obtained that right by prescription. But the law of prescription can be of no force in deciding controversies which happen between princes and people acknowledging no superior : because, the peculiar civil laws of any country are of no more weight, in relation to foreign states, than if such laws had never existed : so that, for deciding controversies of this nature, recourse must necessarily be had to the general law of nations, originally or secondarily ; which can never admit of such an usurpation of a title to the dominion of the sea by prescription : though, on some such presumption, it will be found, that the *Spaniards* have frequently molested the navigation of the *English* subjects in the seas of *America*.

EVERY nation has a right to enact what laws they judge proper for regulating the trade and navigation of their respective colonies, as well as of the mother country : but these laws and regulations should never interfere with subsisting public treaties, nor with the laws of nations, which give every state a right and freedom of navigation to and from their several colonies and plantations : for such laws and regulations which interfere with

public treaties, and the laws of nations, must tend to destroy all amity with such nations who make them.

THE *Spanish* government are even jealous of their own subjects, as well as of foreigners, in *America*; and the only essential maxim which runs through the whole political œconomy of the *Spaniards*, in respect of their territories there, is the subjecting them to an absolute dependance upon *Spain*: therefore, all things relating to their *American* empire, receive their first form, and last consideration, from the council for the *Indies* in *Spain*; which is composed of such persons who have attained the best knowledge of these countries.

ALL the *Spanish* possessions in *South America* are subject to the * vice-roy of *Peru*; and the natural-born *Spaniards* are solely vested with command throughout all the *Spanish Indies*, enjoying all the posts of honour, profit, and trust; which has occasioned those draughts that have so much exhausted and debilitated their dominions in *Europe*: for, as they put no confidence even in the very first generation of their descendants, and absolutely prohibit all strangers from going there in their service, there is a necessity of continually sending large supplies to *America*, that the governing people may be still in a condition of holding the reins with equal tightness and severity. But this form of government creates an irreconcilable antipathy between the *European Spaniards* and the creolians, or those born of *Spanish* parents in the *West-Indies*; who, with indignation, find themselves equally excluded from all considerable preferments, either in

* See this Volume, p. 151.

in church or state; they see the most palpable partiality shewn in all judicial proceedings between them and the *Spaniards*; and know that the whole policy of their governors is bent to distress the creolians: while the ruling *Spaniards* are thoroughly sensible that the creolians entertain these sentiments, and exert their utmost artifices to enfeeble them; by discouraging, as far as they are able, all sorts of manufactures, and compelling them to purchase such as are sent from *Spain*: they also endeavour to prevent an increase of plantations, except estancias, or beef-farms; that the creolians may not have it in their power to possess rich and improved settlements: which is the cause why those noble countries are so little cultivated. Besides, the native *Spaniards* make it their aim to increase luxury, indolence, and pusillanimity, among the creolians, that they may the more easily be kept in obedience: from whence it is apparent, that the buccaneers, and other adventurers, in small bodies, were able to commit great depredations. Thus, throughout all these rich, noble, and extensive provinces, the inhabitants seem inspired with a spirit of dissention, which renders them perpetually uneasy and discontented; so that the blessings conferred upon them, by indulgent Providence, are made almost useless, and insignificant.

It has always been the prevailing maxim in the *Spanish* councils, to preserve their *American* commerce, not only to the *Spanish* nation, but solely to the crown of *Spain*; which has this interesting trade conducted by means of the galleons, flota, flotilla, register-ships, and guarda costas, under the management of the council of commerce for the
Indies,

Indies, established at *Seville*, who have provided excellent laws for its security ; among which are the following :

1. No ships are permitted to go to any of the *Spanish* dominions in *America*, without a special licence granted by the king ; which licences are issued by the council of commerce at *Seville*.

2. No foreigner can be permitted to go to the *Spanish* dominions in *America* in any licensed ship, on any terms whatever, either to settle or trade there ; *Irishmen* only excepted, and they must be all Roman catholics.

3. No person, not even a native *Spaniard*, is allowed to go to the *Spanish West-Indies*, without special licence from the council of commerce ; which not only regulates the time the several fleets of ships are to sail, to what places, and when they shall be obliged to come away ; but it also limits the number of ships, and the quantity of gold ; as the latter should not exceed the demand, and glut the markets.

THE *Spanish* government sends two fleets annually to *America* : the one, which they call the galleons, for carrying on the commerce of *Peru* ; and the other, which they call the flota, for *Mexico*.

A GALLEON formerly denoted a large vessel, or ship of war, of three decks ; built in a particular manner to afford a great deal of room for merchandize, with which these ships are so much crowded, that they are in no condition of defending themselves, if attacked by an enemy. The galleons are laden entirely upon the account of his Catholic majesty ; being eight in number ; the principal of which, are the *Capitana*, the *Admirante*, *il Governatore*,

verno, the *Patacha*, and *Margarita*, each of 50 guns; with an advice frigate of 40, called the *Aviso*: however, besides the royal galleons, there are usually from twelve to sixteen merchant ships in this trade, belonging to private persons, who purchase their licences at a very high rate, and sail in company with the galleons, laden with warlike stores, or merchandize, for *Peru*.

THE galleons are loaded at *Cadiz*; from whence they may put out at any time; and they are about two years in completing their voyage. They steer directly for the *Canaries*; and, if the flota sails with them, as it sometimes does, they anchor together in the haven of *Gomera*; from whence they bear away for the *Antilles*, where they separate; the galleons proceeding for *Carthagena* and *Porto Bello*; and the flota for *Vera Cruz*: though, on their return, they rejoin at the *Havannah*, in the isle of *Cuba*. As soon as the galleons double *Cape de la Vela*, and appear before the mouth of the *Rio de la Hacha*, advice is sent to all parts, that every thing may be got ready for their reception. They continue about a month at *Carthagena*, and about six weeks at *Porto Bello*; but, when they have transacted their business at the latter place, they return to the former, and remain there till they set sail for *Spain*. They proceed first to the *Havannah*; then steer through the gulph of *Florida*; and so to the height of *Carolina*, where they meet with the western winds, and shape their course for the *Azores* to take in provisions; after which they continue their voyage to *Cadiz*.

A REGISTER ship is so called, from its being registered, with all the effects embarked in *Spain*, in the books kept for that purpose in the chamber
of

of *Seville*: but these register ships belong to the merchants, who petition, and obtain leave from the council of the *Indies*, to send a ship of 300 ton burthen, or under, to some particular port; though the ship carries upwards of 600 ton of goods, and affords accommodation for passengers besides. The register ships proceed to *St. Martha*, *Porto Cavallo*, *Buenos Ayres*, and some other places, which are never resorted to by the *flota* or galleons: yet they generally go out, and return with those fleets. There is sometimes a gain of two or three hundred per cent. in this trade; which enables the owners to pay very bountifully for their licence: however, it is carried on by foreigners, as well as by the native *Spaniards*; who lend them their names for this purpose; whereby the *Spanish* merchants render themselves only as factors to the other *Europeans*. And, besides this kind of surreptitious trade, there is another of a more illicit nature carried on along the *Spanish* main, by the *English* and *Dutch*, in the *West Indies*, without the ceremony of a licence; in which they succeeded for many years, partly by employing force, and partly by the connivance of *Spanish* governors; till this evil grew so flagrant, that the court of *Spain* determined to put an end to it; and sent new governors into *America*, with very precise orders on this head; declaring that they should be carried fully into execution. This gave rise to the *guarda-costas*, or guard-ships, who exceeded their commissions; and, by their depredations, brought on the last war between the crowns of *Great Britain* and *Spain*. But the commerce carried on by the *flota*, will be mentioned in the dissertation following the description of the *Spanish* colonies in *North America*. THE

THE loading of the galleons is more valuable than others ; which is evident from the following estimate of the money and effects annually returned to *Spain* from her *American* dominions.

Pieces of Eight,

In gold ; of which the galleons bring home between two and three millions ; and the flota, generally about one. } 4,000,000

In silver, by the galleons, from 18 to 20 millions ; and by the flota from 10 to 12. } 30,000,000

In precious stones : by the galleons in pearls 200,000 ; in emeralds 300,000 ; in bezoars, turquoises, amethysts, and others of inferior value, 30,000 : as also some turquoises by the flota, to the value of 70,000. } 600,000

In *Vigonia* wool by the galleons. 50,000

QUINQUINA, by the galleons, 20,000 ; and as much by the flota. } 40,000

In raw hides by the galleons, 70,000 ; and as much by the flota. } 140,000

In logwood, by the galleons. 60,000

In cochineal by the flota, and register ships. } 1,000,000

In indigo about 200,000

By hides from *Buenos Ayres*, in a register ship. } 200,000

In sugars, tobacco, and drugs. 2,000,000

38,290,000

Thus, it appears, that this commerce of the *Spanish* continent and island of *America*, brings in annually 38,290,000

38,290,000 pieces of eight, or 6,843,159 *l.* sterling: but this wealth is dissipated among other nations, to whom the *Spaniards* have not been improperly called stewards: for, though their galleons bring the silver into *Spain*, it is not to be kept there, either by power or policy: it runs out as fast, or faster, than it comes in: and it has been asserted, that the little canton of *Bern* in *Switzerland*, has more opulence, and credit, than his Catholic majesty, notwithstanding his possession of the *Indies*.

At first sight, this appears to be strange and incredible: but the mystery is far from being impenetrable, when it passes under examination: for the silver, and rich commodities of the *Indies*, are brought to *Spain* in return for *European* goods and manufactures, of which very few belong to the *Spanish* subjects, who supply their *American* provinces with what they receive, as negociators, for the merchants of *Great Britain*, *France*, *Holland*, and *Hamburgh*. All the necessaries of life, and many articles of luxury, are required by the inhabitants of *Spanish America*; who receive only wines, oils, olives, dried fruits, and sweet-meats of the produce of *Spain*; all the rest being supplied by other nations, the prime cost of which amounts to a great sum, and the profits upon them to a greater. The very probity of the *Spanish* merchants is destructive to their country: because, they are never known to betray their trust; and, consequently, the foreigners who make use of their names to cover their commerce in the *Indies*, reap the entire advantage of the high price at which their goods are sold: so that all which remains in
Spain,

Spain, is the silver and gold on the account of his majesty, the profit of such goods as were actually sent by *Spanish* merchants, and the commissions received by the *Spanish* factors : all besides is presently drawn away, and other nations enriched by the poverty of *Spain*.

BUT, if the *Spanish* government had given encouragement to trade and manufactures, after the discovery of *America*, there is great probability that the supreme direction of the affairs of *Europe* would have fallen into the hands of the Catholic monarchs : for, if all the subjects of *Spain* had traded to these far distant regions, without restraint, this must have created such a maritime force, as no other nation could have opposed : or, supposing the trade had been confined as it is at present, and manufactures had been encouraged, for driving a traffic to the greatest part of the *West Indies*, without having recourse to foreigners, such prodigious sums of money must have centered in *Spain*, as would have enabled its monarchs to prescribe law to all their neighbours. By neglecting these obvious and salutary rules, for establishing a solid and extensive dominion, the *Spanish* kings adhered to those refinements in policy, which have never yet been found to answer in practice, however excellent they may appear in theory. They were for fixing their commerce by constraint, and for establishing power by the sword : but experience has shewn the first to be impracticable ; and it is probable that the latter was the only method whereby they could have missed that end they endeavoured to obtain. By repeated attempts to secure the wealth of the *Indies* entirely to *Spain*, they scattered

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ed it throughout *Europe*; and, by openly grasping at universal monarchy, they alarmed those they might have subdued: so that, in process of time, the people they intended for slaves, not only became their equals and allies; but some of them became their masters, and gave law to the aspirers of universal monarchy.

FERDINAND the Catholic, in whose reign *Columbus* discovered *America*, reposed no confidence in that excellent man; but, by an unaccountable stroke of policy, was inclined to trust any other person in the management of the new discovered world, only because that discovery was made by *Columbus*. *Charles V.* who succeeded him, paid such little regard to the interest of *Spain*, that he granted a whole province in *South America* to the citizens of *Augsburgh*, in *Germany*. *Philip II.* was so much taken up in endeavouring to reduce the *Netherlands*, enslave *Italy*, conquer *England*, over-run *France*, and in annexing *Portugal* to his dominions, that he considered his subjects in *America*, only as the instruments of providing money for him to prosecute his ambitious designs. Nor were the successors of this monarch more attentive to their *American* colonies, which they looked upon as a farm to be fleeced, rather than as an estate to be improved. This conduct of the *Spanish* monarchs impoverished their subjects, whose expences in the army obliged them to seek new fortunes in *America*; which greatly depopulated their mother country: and it plainly appeared, towards the close of the last century, that, with all their boasted firmness and sagacity, the *Spaniards* had ruined themselves by acquiring too much power, and rendered

dered themselves beggars by the misapplication of their riches : for, with ostentatious titles, and very extensive dominions, they were reduced to a weak and despicable condition.

BUT the *Spaniards* are at last awakened from their lethargy, and seem to be sensible that commerce is the best foundation of power : they are preparing to carry on an active trade, and to consult the interest of their colonies. His Catholic majesty, in 1720, took into consideration the ruin of the cocoa-trade between *Spain* and the *Indies*, in the galleons, flota, and register ships ; which was owing to the excessive duties chargeable at the port of *Cadiz*, and afterwards the inland duties that made this considerable branch of commerce be engrossed by foreigners ; who not only exported it to their respective countries ; but brought it back to the *Spanish* ports, where they could introduce it by an advantage in the admeasurement and indulgencies in the duties, exclusive of fraud ; being privileges withheld from the *Spaniards*, as they imported it registered, from the *Indies* to *Cadiz*, under an obligation to consign it there, according to the tenor of the register. His majesty, therefore, ordered a reduction of those duties ; and made other provisions for retrieving this branch of commerce ; which is the principal freight of the galleons, and register ships, on their return from *America*.

THE *Spanish* government will not permit any foreigners to carry on any trade with their colonies : but the *English*, *French*, and *Dutch*, carry on a contraband traffic greatly to their own advantage, and to the benefit of the *American Spaniards*,

who encourage this illicit trade, as it gives them an opportunity of evading the royal duties, and purchasing the goods at a much cheaper price, than when they properly pass through the hands of the government. The *Spaniards* likewise pretend to have a right of visiting all ships, and of confiscating such as have any of their manufactures, produce, or money on board ; which has given rise to several quarrels between the crowns of *Great Britain* and *Spain*, from 1670 to 1739, when the last war was declared entirely upon this account : but the remarks upon that occasion will be inserted in the second volume of this history, under the dissertation annexed to the description of the *Spanish* colonies on the continent of *North America* : which will also include several other observations relating to the commerce of the *Spanish* colonies, the interest of other *European* nations in that branch of trade, and how far it may be necessary for *Great Britain* to exert herself at any time in opposition to the measures that may be taken by the court of *Spain* to interrupt the navigation of the *American Ocean*.

Portuguese

Portuguese AMERICA.

WITH

An Account of the Southern INDIANS;
and of the JESUITS *of* PARAGUAY.

PART III.

A

NEW HISTORY

OF

AMERICA.

PART III.

The DESCRIPTION of BRAZIL.

CHAP. I.

The extent, and boundaries, of this country: how the PORTUGUESE established themselves there; and in what manner they were disturbed by the DUTCH. The face of the country; its animals, vegetables, and commodities; with a particular description of the brazil-tree. The cruelty of the PORTUGUESE to the INDIANS. An account of the present inhabitants of BRAZIL, and of the fifteen captainrics into which the country is divided; with their rivers, towns, and trade: to which is added an estimate of the annual produce of the gold and diamond mines; as also of the brazil-wood, imported into EUROPE.

THIS extensive, and opulent country of Brazil, or Brasil, is subject to the crown of Portugal; being situated between the mouth of

the great river *Amazon*, under the equator ; and the mouth of the river *La Plata*, in 35 degrees of south latitude : so that, by measuring it in a direct line, it is upwards of 2000 miles in length, from north to south ; but near 4000, if all the windings and turnings of the coast are taken into the calculation : and, as it is said to extend from the 35th to the 51^o degree of west longitude, it is about 960 miles in breadth, from east to west ; though the *Portuguese* have no settlements at any great distance from the coast.

THE country is bounded by the *Atlantic Ocean*, on the north and east ; by the country of the *Amazons*, and *Paraguay*, on the west ; and by the river *La Plata*, on the south. It was discovered by *Peter Alvarez Capralis*,* a *Portuguese* admiral, in the year 1501 ; who was at the head of 13 sail of ships bound to the *East Indies* ; but was drove upon this coast, in 10 degrees of south latitude : from whence he sailed southward, and landed at a place, which he called *Porto Seguro* ; where he erected an altar, gave the name of *The Holy Cross* to the country, and dispatched one of his ships into *Europe*, to acquaint the court of *Portugal* with this discovery ; which was accidentally made, nine years after *Columbus* had happily discovered the northern parts of *America*, by his sagacity and fortitude : though *Herrera*, and some other *Spanish* writers, have ventured to affirm, that *Pinzon* and *Lopez*, both in the service of *Spain*, discovered this country a year before the *Portuguese*.

THE country soon lost the name given to it by *Capralis*, and obtained that of *Brazil*, from the brazil-

* See this Volume, p. 130.

Brazil-wood which is found there in abundance : but, notwithstanding the *Portuguese* made several attempts to establish a proper settlement here, it was not done with any success, till the year 1549 ; when they fixed themselves at the *Bay of all Saints*, and built the city of *Saint Salvador*. The *French* also attempted to plant colonies on this coast : but they were prevented by the *Portuguese* ; who continued, almost without a rival, in *Brazil*, till the year 1623, when the crown of *Portugal* was seized by the king of *Spain*, with whom the united provinces were at war, who sent a strong fleet to *Brazil*, and took *St. Salvador* ; which was soon retaken by the *Portuguese*. However, the *Dutch* continued to harass the *Portuguese* settlements, and at last possessed themselves of the entire province of *Fernambuco* : whereupon, count *Maurice of Nassau*, accepted the government of the *Dutch* conquests, which he not only extended, but detached a squadron from thence to the coast of *Africa*, and took the important fortrefs of *Del Mina* from the *Portuguese*. Count *Maurice* was disgusted with the states general, and returned to *Europe* in 1644. After this, the *Dutch* interest declined so much in *Brazil*, that in 10 years the *Portuguese* drove them entirely out of the country : but, as the *Dutch* interrupted the *Portuguese* at sea, the king of *Portugal*, by a treaty in 1661, agreed to pay them a considerable sum of money, to relinquish their interest in that country, which was accepted ; and the *Portuguese* have ever since remained in the peaceable possession of all *Brazil*.

THE face of the country appears somewhat high near the coast : but exceeding pleasant ; being di-

verified with woods and savannahs, and the trees are generally ever-greens. Though far within land, on the west side of the country, there are lofty mountains, which separate it from the *Spanish* province of *La Plata*.

THE seasons, air, and winds, vary throughout this extensive country, according to the situation of the respective provinces. For, *First*, the most northerly part, which lies next the equator, is subject to heavy rains, and variable winds, like other countries in the same latitude; particularly, in the months of *March* and *September*; when the country is overflowed with rain, and rendered unhealthful by storms and tornadoes: but this part is very little inhabited; and the *Portuguese* only keep possession of the coasts, to prevent foreigners making any settlements. In the *Second* place, from five degrees of south latitude, to the tropic of *Capricorn*, the winds and seasons are the very reverse here, to what they are in other parts of the world, in the same latitude: because, in other places south of the equinoctial, the dry season comes on when the sun goes to the northward of the line; and the wet season begins when the sun goes to the southward: but, in *Brazil*, the wet season commences in *April*, when the south-west winds set in with violent tornadoes, thunder, and lightening; and, in *September*, when the wind shifts to east north-east, it brings a clear sky and fair weather, which is the time of their sugar-harvest. And, *Thirdly*, the most southerly part of *Brazil*, which lies without the tropic of *Capricorn*, is one of the most desirable parts of the world; being not only blest with a fruitful soil, but having a greater share of fair weather, and a more temperate air, than those countries that are nearer to,

or those that are farther removed from, the equator.

THERE are only two winds that blow upon the middle of this coast: the south-east, from *April* to *September*; and the north-east, from *September* to *April* again: but the constant trade-wind is met with, about 30 or 40 leagues out at sea; which blows in the *Atlantic Ocean* all the year round, from the eastward, with little variation.

THERE are innumerable springs and lakes in the mountains, from whence issue abundance of streams, that fall into the great rivers *Amazon* and *La Plata*; or run across the country from west to east, and fall into the *Atlantic Ocean*: but the last are very numerous; being of great use to the *Portuguese*, in turning their sugar-mills, and meliorating their lands, which they overflow annually.

As this country lies between the first, second, third, and fourth climates, it is so very hot in some places as to breed a great number of poisonous, and obnoxious creatures; besides a great variety of wild and other animals. There are several of the serpentine kind; as the ibibaboka, between three and four yards in length; the boivivinga, or rattlesnake; the boycagu, six or seven yards long, and half a yard in circumference; and the liboya, or roe-buck serpent, about 30 feet in length, and two or three yards round; with scorpions, and other disagreeable animals. There are also tigers, antbears, armadilloes, porcupines, janouveras, monkeys, ayis, and tapirassous; the latter of which is a creature between a bull and an ass, with long hanging ears, and a short tail, but without horns: besides, there is plenty of deer, hares, and other game;

game; with great variety of birds, and fish: as also many of the *Peruvian*, and most of the *European* animals.

THE soil of *Brazil* is generally good, producing large trees of several sorts, and fit for any uses: the savannahs afford excellent pasture; and, if properly cultivated, produce cotton, tobacco, indico, sugar-canes, maize, and tropical fruits. The chief forest trees are, the sapiera, vermiatico, commeserie, guiteba, and ferrie, which are used for building houses and shipping: there are also three kinds of mangrove trees, as many of cotton trees, with the wild cocoa-nut-tree, whose nuts are used for making beads, and toys; there are likewise the speckled wood, fustick, and other dying woods: but the most remarkable of them all, is that from which the country is denominated, and requires a particular description.

THE brazil, or red-wood, is cut from a tree, somewhat like the *English* oak, for largeness and foliage; being hard to fell and split, which is done by the negro slaves, who are also obliged to bring it to the sea-side upon their shoulders. This wood is very heavy, and dry: it crackles much in the fire, and raises little smoke: it should be chosen in thick pieces, close, sound, and without any bark on it: but from a pale-colour, upon splitting, it becomes reddish; and has a sweetish taste when chewed. It is used by turners; as also to make a kind of carmine, by means of acids; and a liquid lacca, for miniature: however, the principal use is in dying, where it serves for a red colour, which easily fades and evaporates; though it should not be used without allum and tartar.

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THERE are some fine woods of ebony, and five different kinds of palm-trees : with almost all kinds of fruit-trees, plants, herbs, and flowers, growing in *America*, or brought over from *Europe*.

THE principal commodities of this country are sugar, tobacco, dying woods, ambergrease, resin, train-oil, hides, ginger, indico, balsams, and sweetmeats : but, of late years, the *Portuguese* have discovered several mines of gold and diamonds ; as also jasper, emeralds, chrystal, and other precious stones, which have most amazingly enriched their mother country.

THE first *Portuguese* adventurers were destroyed by the natives, and no settlement was made, till *John III.* king of *Portugal*, sent a great fleet there, with a thousand soldiers on board, commanded by *Thomas de Sosa* ; accompanied by several jesuits, sent by pope *Paul III.* for the conversion of the natives, who were divided into several states, and at war among themselves ; which gave the *Portuguese* an opportunity of reducing the whole, and making them slaves without any distinction. The *Portuguese* have represented the *Brazilians* as savages, without any notion of religion ; and as cannibals, without any sense of humanity : but this was done to justify their invasions of the country, and the barbarous massacres they committed on the poor inhabitants ; for, notwithstanding what the *Spaniards*, or *Portuguese* have asserted, it is very manifest that the *Indians* were no more cannibals, or men-eaters, than the *Europeans*.

THE present inhabitants of *Brazil*, are *Portuguese*, creolians, mestizoes, negroes, and *Indians* ;
of

of whom the former, who are the governors, are the fewest in number, and have divided the country into fifteen provinces, or captain-ships : but the whole is now called a principality ; because it gives a title to the presumptive heir of *Portugal*, who is stiled prince of *Brazil*.

THESE governments, captainrics, or capitánias, are 1. *Para* ; 2. *Maragnano* ; 3. *Siara* ; 4. *Rio Grande* ; 5. *Parayba* ; 6. *Tamarac* ; 7. *Pernambuco* ; 8. *Seregippe* ; 9. *Bahia de Todos los Santos* ; 10. *Rio dos Ilheos* ; 11. *Porto Seguro* ; 12. *Espirito Santo* ; 13. *Rio de Janeiro* ; 14. *St. Vincent* ; and, 15. *del Rey*. Eight of these captainrics belonged properly to his *Portuguese* majesty : but the others were granted to some of his nobility ; though they were obliged to acknowledge the sovereignty of the vice-roy of the whole country, who has his residence in the city of *St. Salvador*, or *Bahia*, in the captainship of *Bahia de Todos los Santos*.

1. THE captainric of *PARA*, or *Paria*, is the most northerly of all ; being bounded by the mouth of the river *Amazon*, and the ocean, on the north ; by the province of *Maragnano*, on the east ; by the country of the *Tapuyer*, on the south ; and by the country of the *Amazons*, on the west : being about 190 miles in extent from east to west ; but uncertain from north to south.

THE river *AMAZON* is reported to be the greatest river in the world ; considering the length of its course, and the depth of its water ; for it rises in *Peru*, near the equator, runs upwards of 3000 miles eastward, and falls into the *Atlantic Ocean* by several channels, under the equinoctial ; being 150 miles broad at the mouth, where there
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are several little islands. The river *Para*, which gives name to this province, runs through it from south to north, and falls into the mouth of the river *Amazon*: but there are also the rivers of *Paranayba*, *Pacaxes*, and *Tocantes*, which fall into the river *Amazon*.

THE principal town is *Belem*, or *Para*, situated at the mouth of the river *Amazon*, in $47^{\circ} 20'$ of west longitude, and one degree of south latitude: being tolerably well fortified, and inhabited by about 300 *Portuguese*, with their slaves; whose principal business is the cultivation of tobacco, and sugar; as also the gathering of cotton, which grows wild in this neighbourhood.

COMMUTA is another town, about 90 miles south-west of *Belem*; having a small fort to keep the *Indians* in awe, and protect the plantations of the *Portuguese*. Besides, there are some other settlements, though of little consideration.

2. THE captainric of *MARAGNANO*, or *Maranhão*, is so called from an island of the same name, which is contiguous to *Para*; being bounded by the ocean, on the north; by *Siara*, on the east; by the *Tapuyers*, on the south; and by *Para*, on the west; extending about 240 miles from east to west: though, like all the other provinces, it runs only a little way from the coast. The principal rivers are *Maracu*, *Topocora*, and *Mony*; which unite their streams in the bay of *Maragnano*: but there are four others, the *Paragues*, *Paramiri*, *Camussimiri*, and *Barreiras Vemeilhas*, which run the same northern course through the province.

THE island of *Maragnano*, lies at the mouth of the three principal rivers, and is about 135 miles

miles in circumference, very fertile, and well inhabited. The *French*, who seized on it, in 1612, built a town there, in $42^{\circ} 20'$ of west longitude, and $1^{\circ} 44'$ of south latitude, which they called *St. Louis de Maragnan*: but it was afterwards taken by the *Portuguese*. It is a small strong town, with a castle built on a rock towards the sea, which commands a convenient harbour beneath. There are also the towns of *St. Andero*, and *St. Jago*; besides several villages of *Indians* who live upon the island: and the *Spaniards* have likewise the town of *Cuma*, situated upon the continent, opposite to the island of *Maragnano*.

3. THE captainric of *SIARA*, is so called from a river of the same name, which rises far up in the continent, and discharges itself into the northern ocean, in three degrees of south latitude, about seven or eight leagues north of the bay of *Mangerypa*. It is about 360 miles broad from east to west: but the principal part of the country is inhabited by free *Indians*, who confine the *Portuguese* to a very small territory, where they have only the town of *Siara*, and the fort of *St. Luke*; the former being situated at the mouth of the river *Siara*, in $39^{\circ} 50'$ of west longitude, and $2^{\circ} 35'$ of south latitude; and the latter on the mouth of a small river, about 60 miles east of the other, between *Rio Buranduba* and *Porto das Oncas*: though there are some other rivers which run through the province, and fall into the *Atlantic*.

4. THE captainric of *RIO GRANDE*, lies on the east of that of *Siara*, and winds itself from east to south, where it is bounded by *Parayba*; being about 68 miles in extent from south-east to north-west.

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The *Rio Grande*, or *Great River*, which gives name to this government, falls into the ocean in $34^{\circ} 26'$ of west longitude, and $5^{\circ} 30'$ of south latitude: but has nothing to deserve that pompous title; except that, towards the mouth, it is able to bear ships of some bulk: for its entrance is difficult and dangerous; though, farther in, it is wide and deep enough. The natives call this country *Porigi*, or *Polingi*, which is poorly inhabited; and has only two forts for the protection of a few *Portuguese* plantations.

5. THE captainric of *PARAYBA*, is about 100 miles in extent from north to south; being divided into two equal parts, by a river of the same name, which discharges itself by two mouths into the ocean, in $6^{\circ} 24'$ of south latitude. There are several towns and villages in this district, well inhabited either by *Portuguese* or *Indians*: but *Parayba* is the capital, which is situated at the mouth of the river, on the south bank of it, about three leagues from the sea, in $35^{\circ} 10'$ of west longitude, and $6^{\circ} 50'$ of south latitude. The town is well built, and surrounded with ramparts; the mouth of the river being defended by three forts; and a ship may carry six or 700 barrels of sugar up to the town with great security; though not without a pilot. The port of *Lucena*, which is a good harbour for ships, is about two leagues north of the capital. There are also seven large villages inhabited by *Indians*; for there is a great fertility throughout the whole country, which abounds in brazil-wood, sugar, tobacco, cotton, roucou, hides, barley, *Indian* wheat, potatoes, ananas, melons, citrons, oranges, bananas, pakanas, and other necessaries of life.

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6. THE captainric of *TAMARAC*, or *Tamarica*, is so called from an island, lying on its coast, near the mouth of the river of the same name ; which makes the principal part of its district, though its territory extends upwards of 90 miles upon the continent. The island of *Tamarica* is situated in $35^{\circ} 6'$ of west longitude, and $7^{\circ} 54'$ of south latitude : it is about three miles in length, one in breadth, and eight in circumference ; being parted from the continent by a very narrow channel, and having a commodious haven on the south side, with some good springs, and small rivers of fresh water.

THE capital town is called *Nostra Signora da Conceizao*, or *da Tamarica*, which lies at the entrance of the river, and is defended by a small castle, with a redoubt to command the avenues. There is also the town of *Goyana*, situated on the river of the same name, about 10 miles north of *Conceizao* ; and there are several *Indian* villages in the district, with many sugar plantations, and 22 sugar mills.

7. THE captainric of *PERNAMBUCO*, or *Fernambucca*, is one of the most considerable provinces of *Brazil* ; extending about 180 miles along the eastern coast, and a considerable way up the country. It is divided into eleven small districts, each of which has its denomination from its chief city, or village, 1. *Olinda* ; 2. *Garazu* ; 3. *Arracife* ; 4. *Meribela* ; 5. *Sant Antonio* ; 6. *Poyulca* ; *Serinhaim* ; 8. *Gonzalo de Una* ; 9. *Porto Calvo* ; 10. and 11. the north and south *Alagoa* : but the most considerable of them are *Olinda*, and *Garazu* ; the rest scarcely deserving the names of towns,

towns, and some even of villages ; consisting only of a few hamlets for the overseers and slaves at the sugar plantations.

THE whole province of *Pernambuco* abounds with variety of fruits, pasture-grounds, and cattle : being well watered with several considerable rivers, and particularly the *Capibaribi*, which falls into the *Biriribi*, near *St. Antonio de Vaz*.

THE town of *Olinda*, was the capital of the province ; being seated on the northern part of it, near the harbour of *Arracife*, in 35° of west longitude, and $8^{\circ} 10'$ of south latitude. It was formerly a remarkable place for trade ; because the greatest part of the product of *North Brazil* was conveyed here to be exported to *Portugal* : but it was so unhappily situated among hills, which commanded it, that it could not be fortified enough against an enemy, without great difficulty and expence ; on which account, it became an easy prey to the *Dutch*, in 1630, who ruined a great part of the town, and demolished the fortifications in such a manner, that it is now looked upon as an inconsiderable place by the *Portuguese*, notwithstanding they have inhabited it ever since it was abandoned by the *Dutch*.

SINCE the decline of *Olinda*, the town of *Pernambuco*, or the *Recief*, is become the capital of the captainric ; which is the same place that was called *Maurice* town by the *Dutch*, who built it on the island of *St. Antonio de Vaz*, a little to the south of *Olinda*. The harbour of the *Recief*, or *Arracife*, is composed partly of a peninsula on the continent, and partly of several small islands opposite to it ; which were built upon, and fortified by

the *Dutch*, who made a communication by a bridge between *Maurice Town* and the continent.

THE port of *Arracife*, opposite the town of *Per-nambuco*, is so called from its situation among a ridge of rocks or sands; and the harbour of *Per-nambuco*, or rather *Infernoboco*, the mouth of hell, was so named by the *Portuguese*, on account of the rocks and shoals, under water, at its entrance: but *Arracife* is now reported to be the strongest port in all *Brazil*; being defended by two castles, and some other forts. It is shut up by those rocks and sands, which form a kind of bar, and streighten the entrance several leagues: so that great vessels are obliged to enter by a very narrow opening; after which they come into a little bay, where a small river, flowing from the inland, discharges itself, about a league from *Olinda*. The port consists of a suburb, containing some large ware-houses for sugar, and other merchandizes; being defended by a castle, built upon a narrow passage, from whence the garrison can easily obstruct the entrance of ships: though it was taken by captain *Lancaster*, in 1595, with seven *English* vessels: but, after his departure, the *Portuguese* built another castle on a rock in the sea, together with some other forts and outworks; from which time, the entrance has been inaccessible to all strangers.

GARAZU is about 18 miles from *Olinda*; but is rather a large village, than a town: and there are no other considerable places upon the coast.

8. THE captainric of *SEREGIPPE*, receives its denomination from a river that runs almost through the middle of it, and disembogues itself into

into the ocean, between the mouths of two other rivers, called *Guaratiba* and *Vazabaris*. The country extends from north to south about 96 miles, along the eastern coast, between $10^{\circ} 50'$, and $11^{\circ} 45'$ of south latitude. It is divided into several inferior districts, which abound with plantations of sugar and tobacco : but the only remarkable town is *Seregippe*, the capital of the captainric, distinguished by the title of *Del Rey*, or *Villa de bon Sucesso*, and more commonly *St. Christopher* : being situated on the north side of the river *Vazabaris*, 7 leagues from the sea, in $36^{\circ} 57'$ of west longitude, and $11^{\circ} 15'$ of south latitude : though it is now become inconsiderable.

9. THE captainric of *BAHIA de TODOS los SANCTOS*, or *Bay of all Saints*, receives its name from a large bay, about two leagues and a half over ; being in some places 12, and in others 18 fathom deep ; intermixed with a number of little pleasant islands, producing abundance of cotton.

THE country extends about 200 miles along the coast, exclusive of its windings ; being esteemed one of the richest, and most considerable of all *Brazil*, especially for its great plenty of sugar : but it is very unhealthy, on account of the excessive heat of the climate.

THE principal city is *St. Salvador*, or *Ciudad de Bahia* ; which is the metropolis of all *Brazil*, the see of an archbishop, and the residence of the vice-roy ; being a populous, magnificent, and opulent place, situated on the east side of the bay, in $38^{\circ} 25'$ of west longitude, and $12^{\circ} 7'$ of south latitude. It is well fortified, both by art and nature : the principal avenues being guarded by seven forts about the town, be-

sides those which command the entrance of the harbour. There is a great trade carried on in this capital, whose principal inhabitants have much politeness and civility; but the lower kind are intolerably proud and insolent. The city is supposed to contain about 2000 houses; inhabited by 12000 *Portuguese*, and double that number of negroes, who are kept in the most abject degree of slavery by their imperious masters, either in carrying them about in sedans, or working them in the plantations of sugar and tobacco, in which some masters have above 500 slaves, whose labour is so hard, and sustenance so small, that they are reputed to live long if they hold it out for seven years.

10. The captainric of *RIO dos ILHEOS*, receives its name from several islands lying before the main bay of it, and extends about 140 miles from north to south, exclusive of the windings of the coast; having some rivers that cross it from west to east, particularly the *Rio das Contas*, *das Ilheos*, *de Duna*, and *Jussia*. The chief places are, *Ilheos*, the capital; *Nostra. Signora da Victoria*, *St. Anna*; and *St. George*; besides some hamlets, and several sugar plantations: but *Ilheos* is the only town of any consequence; which is situated on the south side of the bay, in $39^{\circ} 40'$ of west longitude, and $15^{\circ} 12'$ of south latitude; being watered by the river *Ilheos*, and containing about 200 *Portuguese* families.

11. THE captainric of *PORTO SEGURO*, received its name from a bay, which was so called by *Peter Alvarez Capralis*, the first discoverer of this part of the continent; and the country extends itself about 200 miles from north to south; being

being watered by ten rivers, the principal of which are, the *Rio Grande*, and *Rio Dolce*, on both its extremities. The chief places, are *Porto Seguro*, the capital; *Santa Cruz*; and *St. Amaro*: but the two latter are very inconsiderable; though the former contains about 500 *Portuguese* families; being situated on the top of a white rock, near the mouth of a small river, in $39^{\circ} 41'$ of west longitude, and 17° of south latitude.

12. THE captainric of *ESPIRITO SANTO*, or the *Holy Ghost*, is so denominated from its capital town, which is situated on a bay, about three leagues from the sea, in $40^{\circ} 6'$ of west longitude, and $20^{\circ} 30'$ of south latitude; being inhabited by about 200 *Portuguese* families: but there is no other town in the province; which is watered by some rivers that render it extremely fertile; and the coast extends about 200 miles from north to south.

13. THE captainric of *RIO de JANEIRO*, is so called from the remarkable river and bay of the same name, which was discovered in *January* 1575. It extends about 250 miles along the coast; which, having run almost in a direct line from north to south, from the bay *de Todos Santos*, to that of *Janeiro*, begins to wind from east to west. The principal city is *Rio Janeiro*, or more properly *St. Sebastian*; which is a populous place, situated on the small bay of *St. Salvador*, about two leagues from the sea, and 16 north-east from the *Rio Janeiro*, in $40^{\circ} 5'$ of west longitude, and $22^{\circ} 40'$ of south latitude; being about 190 leagues south of *Bahia*, or *St. Salvador*. The plains which surround the city, and the banks of the *Janeiro*, are extremely fertile in sugar-canes, indico, tobacco,

and cotton : while the mountains are covered with brazil-wood.

ANGRA de los REYES is another port town, about 100 miles south-west of *St. Sebastian*. There is also the town and harbour of *St. Salvador* : but neither of these are remarkable for trade ; and the rest of the country is chiefly inhabited by *Indians*, who are no better than a kind of slaves to the *Portuguese*.

14. THE captainric of *St. VINCENT*, extends upwards of 300 miles from north to south. The chief town is *St. Vincent*, which is situated at the confluence of three rivers, on a fine bay of the *Atlantic Ocean*, in 45° of west longitude, and $23^{\circ} 45'$ of south latitude. There is also the town of *Santos*, and some others no ways remarkable : though *St. Vincent* is much frequented, on account of the gold mines that have been discovered in the mountains to the westward.

15. THE captainric of *DEL REY*, or the *Royal Captainric*, has been erroneously made a province of *Paraguay* ; for it is part of *Brazil*, and extends from the river of *St. Francis*, in $26^{\circ} 40'$ to the mouth of *Rio de la Plata*, in $34^{\circ} 52'$ of south latitude. The *Portuguese* had only a few towns in the country, which is also but poorly inhabited by the *Indians*, who abandoned it to the new-comers, and fled into *Paraguay*, to avoid their cruelty : however, since the discovery of the gold mines, the *Portuguese* have erected several forts on the north side of the river *La Plata*, and on the islands at the mouth of it, to prevent the *Spaniards* from making any establishments on that side of the river.

BESIDES,

BESIDES, the *Portuguese* have made a regular settlement upon the island of *St. Catherine*, which lies upon this coast, in $49^{\circ} 45'$ of west longitude, and extends from $27^{\circ} 35'$ to 28° of south latitude; being 27 miles in length, and 6 in breadth: though this island, till of late years, was only a retreat for vagabonds, and out-laws, from all parts of *Brazil*; who had plenty of provisions in the island, and exchanged them with such ships as touched there for cloathing, and other *European* commodities.

BUT the *Brazils* are most remarkable for their rich mines of gold and diamonds. The first gold mine was discovered in 1680, near *St. Sebastian*; and, after this, many others were found in several parts of the country, that have greatly enriched the *European* world, as they furnish to the value of five millions sterling every year, of which a fifth belongs to his *Portuguese* majesty. The diamond mines lie to the westward of *St. Sebastian*, and are farmed by the king of *Portugal*, to a company of merchants at *Rio Janeiro*, for the annual rent of 138,000 crusadoes, or 26,000 *l.* sterling; on condition that they shall not employ any more than 600 slaves in these mines. And the brazil-wood also produces to the value of 30,000 *l.* annually: so that the produce of this country alone supports the crown of *Portugal*, which, on every other side, has been deprived of its former sources of wealth.

C H A P. II.

An account of the different countries of SOUTH AMERICA, which are still possessed by the INDIANS. The description of PARAGUAY, and of the government established there by the JESUITS. The republic of ST. PAUL. TERRA MAGELLANICA ; with its bays, and islands ; particularly TERRA DEL FUEGO, and STATEN Island. An account of the Indians of CHILI ; and of the country of the AMAZONS : as also of the Indians of POPAYAN and TERRA FIRMA.

THE countries which are already under the dominion of the *Spaniards*, are of such great compass, and afford such immense riches, that they have no strong temptations to extend their conquests, or to increase their discoveries. The same may be asserted of the *Portuguese* settlements in *Brazil* : though it is evident, that there is a very large tract of country in *South America*, altogether undiscovered, or at least unpossessed, by any *European* nation. It is imagined, that this unknown country is about 2000 miles in length from east to west, and near 1000 broad from north to south ; as also, that it contains more people than all the provinces of the *Spanish* empire : besides, it is highly probable, that this country is extremely rich in gold, silver, and jewels ; as well as in cattle, corn, sugar, rich drugs, and fine fruits.

THE people possessed of these parts, are not only descendants from the original inhabitants ; but also consist of great numbers of other *Indians*, who have

have sheltered themselves here from the cruelties of the *Spaniards* and *Portuguese* : nor is there any just reason to suppose they ever will be conquered, or that they will submit to any *Europeans* ; unless the missionaries extend their power over all these *Indians*, in the same manner as they have subdued the natives of *Paraguay*.

THOSE territories of *South America*, which are still possessed by the *Indians*, are, the greatest part of *Paraguay* ; *Terra Magellanica* ; *Patagonia* ; part of *Chili*, and *Peru* ; the country of the *Amazons* ; most of *Guiana* ; and part of *Terra Firma*.

I. THE country of *PARAGUAY*, or *Rio de la Plata*, has been already described in PART II. chapter II. of this work ; * with an account of the *Indians*, the settlements made by the *Spaniards*, and some mention of the missionaries : but the last have now arrived to such a degree of power, that it is necessary to shew what sort of an independent monarchy they have been endeavouring to establish among the *Indians* of this remote part of the world.

It has been the misfortune of the christian church in *South America*, for more than a century past, that no priests, but the jesuits, have taken any pains, either to convert the *Indians* by their promulgating the doctrine, or to influence them by the regularity of their conduct ; which has thrown that important business upon the jesuitical missionaries, whereby they have acquired such amazing power in *Paraguay*.

THE country under the government of the fathers, lies about 600 miles south-east of the cap-
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* See this Volume, p. 267, and 281.

tainric of *Janeiro* in *Brazil*, about the same distance north of the province of *Buenos Ayres*, 540 north-east from *Tucuman*, and about 300 north-west from the *Spanish* province of *Paraguay*. It is an extensive, pleasant, and fertile country, watered with a variety of rivers and streams; abounding with timber and fruit-trees. It produces great quantities of cotton, indico, sugar, pimento, ipecacuana, and other valuable drugs. The plains are full of horses, mules, black cattle, and sheep. The mountains contain great treasures of gold and silver: besides which, some iron mines have been lately discovered.

THE *Paraguayan Indians* were a brave warlike people, who scorned to submit to the *Spaniards* or *Portuguese*: but submitted to the government of the jesuits, who learnt their languages, and conformed to their uncivilized customs, till they had an opportunity of cultivating their minds, and improving them with the knowledge of the social virtues. They began with gathering them into towns, and forming them into societies; which they engaged to protect against the insults of the *Spanish* soldiery, and from the tyranny of the *Spanish* governors. These promises easily induced the *Indians* to put themselves under the sole direction of the missionaries, who converted them to christianity, and entirely won their affections, by suffering them to continue free from all taxes, and other denotations of slavery, except barely acknowledging the king of *Spain* for their sovereign, and living under a spiritual subjection to their fathers. But the *Brazilian Portuguese*, called mamalukes by the *Europeans*, poured in their numerous bands against these new converts, slaughtered

slaughtered all that resisted them, and carried great numbers into slavery : however, the missionaries obtained permission, from the court of *Spain*, to arm the *Paraguayans*, and encourage them to stand in their own defence ; from which time they resolutely engaged the mamalukes in several encounters, and have met with no farther opposition.

THE mission gradually increased, till it attained its present extent, which comprehends at least 300,000 families, who are most absolutely subservient to the fathers, and pay them all the reverence that can be shewn to mortals.

THESE *Indians* are divided into 42 parishes, extending along the banks of the rivers *Paraguay*, and *Parana* ; none of them being above 30 miles distance from another. Each parish is governed by a single jesuit, who is like a provincial prince : his word is not only a law, but even an oracle : his nod infers supreme command ; and there is no appeal from his decision, which is absolute in all causes both civil and ecclesiastic.

EVERY family has its proportion of land and labour ; of plenty and rest : for industry is common to all : though wealth is attained by none : because the product of their harvest is carried into the magazines of the society ; from whence the fathers disperse whatever they think necessary, to every family, according to its degree. The surplus is so considerable, that the most judicious *Spaniards* conceive it to be about four millions of pieces of eight, or 716,666 *l.* sterling ; which is sent either to *Cordoua*, or *Santa Fe*, where there are procurator-generals, who take care of what belongs to the society, and occasionally transport their wealth into *Europe*.

It is impossible to imagine any thing more magnificent than their parish churches, where divine service is celebrated with the utmost splendor and solemnity. The houses, or rather palaces, of these spiritual fathers, are also extremely superb. There is an annual meeting of all the missionaries, who then confer on the methods necessary to be taken for promoting the common concerns of the mission, establishing new laws, or abolishing old ones. This is the supreme council, which is no ways accountable either to the pope, or his Catholic majesty: but the caziques are accountable to this council, or congregation; from which they receive such orders as concern the mission in general: though they are entirely directed by the presiding priests in matters relating to their particular parishes.

THE military establishment is so very considerable, that each parish has a numerous body of horse and foot, regularly exercised every Sunday afternoon, and divided into regiments, consisting each of six companies, and every company of fifty men. These regiments are properly officered; and the whole establishment consists of about sixty thousand men; under the command of several general officers: but, one of the fathers always commands in chief, when any body of their forces takes the field: for it is their invariable maxim, never to permit their *Indians*, either in peace or war, to acknowledge any other authority. This *Indian* army is surprizingly well disciplined; for they know how to handle the musket and bayonet, like *European* troops; as also to throw heavy stones, or bullets, out of their slings, with great force and dexterity.

dexterity. The fathers pretend, that these forces are kept up to secure their subjects against the *Portuguese*, who formerly invaded them, and committed many devastations : besides, the fathers make use of these troops for scowering the country, to prevent the *Spaniards*, or any other strangers, from coming privately into the missionary territories.

THE fathers ought to pay to his Catholic majesty, a piece of eight for every head under their jurisdiction ; which capitation-tax would produce a considerable revenue, if it was fairly collected, and honestly paid : but the jesuits have eluded the payment, by bribing the governor of *Buenos Ayres*, whose duty it is to visit the mission once in five years.

SUCH a government seems to be unchangeable, while it proceeds upon the same principle : nor is it surprizing that these jesuits are extremely careful, in keeping the poor natives slaves to ignorance and bigotry ; as also in concealing so much empire and wealth from the world, especially *Spain*, at whose expence they were sent to convert the *Indians*, and to make them subjects to the *Spanish* monarchy.

THIS was the situation and authority of every jesuit in *Paraguay* ; where less than 50 monks have above a million of souls under their government ; who, like abject slaves, worship the priests as if they were so many gods. But the missionaries have very lately renounced all allegiance to the crown of *Spain* ; and proclaimed father *Nicholas de Leuco*, one of their order, king of *Paraguay* ; who, according to advices from *Buenos Ayres* and *Panama*, has been crowned by the name of

of *Don Nicholas L.* and has made a progress down the river *Paraguay* ; which makes the *Spaniards* entertain a suspicion, that he has an intention of attacking the towns of *Santa Fè*, or *Buenos Ayres*, situated upon that river : however, the *Spaniards* have thrown strong garrisons in both places ; and it is expected they will be assisted by the *Portuguese*, who have been also offended by the jesuits, as they lately prevented an advantageous exchange of territory between the crowns of *Spain* and *Portugal*. It is reported, that this extraordinary conduct of the jesuits in *Paraguay*, has occasioned the late disgrace of father *Francis Ravago*, confessor to his Catholic majesty ; whereby the society seems to be excluded from this important post, which they have retained for upwards of two centuries. Besides, the court of *Spain* has issued orders for the embarkation of a considerable body of troops, under the command of *Don Pedro de Cervallos*, for the protection of the *Spanish* settlements, and the suppression of the general jurisdiction of the jesuits.

THE republic of *St. PAUL*, is a little state, about 120 miles east of *Paraguay*, and about 30 north of the captainric of *St. Vincent* in *Brazil* ; being surrounded with inaccessible mountains, and by the impenetrable forest of *Pernabacaba*. It consists of *Spaniards*, *Portuguese*, creoles, mestizoes, mulattoes, and negroes ; who lived at first without religion, laws, faith, or honesty ; but were drove by necessity into this kind of government. They are about 4000, and call themselves a free people, by the name of *Paulists*, their capital town : though they pay a kind of tribute to the king of *Portugal*, out of their gold mines, which
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are frequently found in the mountains, where they employ several *Indian* slaves in their drudgery.

2. *TERRA MAGELLANICA*, the *Streights of Magellan*, and *Patagonia*, comprehend a great tract of territory, extending from *Paraguay*, to the utmost extremity of *South America*; that is, from the 35th to the 54th degree of south latitude: but it is difficult to ascertain its boundaries on the west side; for *Ovalle* makes the kingdom of *Chili*, reach quite to the *Magellanic Streights*:* however, as the *Spaniards* have no possessions on that coast beyond 44 or 45 degrees, all that lies farther to the south must be included in this *Magellanic* tract; which is therefore bounded by *Chili*, and the *South Sea*, on the north and west; by the *Southern Ocean*, on the south; and by the *Atlantic Ocean*, on the east. It lies between 53 and 71 degrees of west longitude: being about 1140 miles long; and above 530 broad towards the north, but much more contracted towards the south: being first discovered by *Ferdinand† Magellan*, a *Portuguese* in the service of *Spain*, who communicated his name to the country, and the adjacent streights, by which he found a passage into the *South Seas*.

MAGELLAN himself made no great discoveries on this coast: but those adventurers who followed him this way, assert, that many of the inhabitants were of a gigantic stature, and that they went naked; which is somewhat strange, considering the coldness of the climate, and the sterility of the country.

It is to be observed, that the name of *Patagonia* is sometimes given to all the eastern coast of this part.

* See this Volume, p. 154.

† p. 137

part of the country, from the *Spanish* settlements to the streights of *Magellan*. The whole territory to the northward of the river of *Plate* is full of wood, and stored with immense quantities of large timber-trees : but no trees of any kind are to be met with to the southward of that river, except a few peach-trees, first planted and cultivated by the *Spaniards* in the neighbourhood of *Buenos Ayres*; which is a peculiarity not to be paralleled in any other known part of the globe : for Sir *John Narborough*, in particular, who was sent out by king *Charles II.* expressly to examine this country, and the streights of *Magellan*, in 1670, says, that he never saw a stick of wood in the country, large enough to make the handle of a hatchet.

BUT, though the country is destitute of wood, it abounds with pasture ; the land, in general, appearing to be made up of downs, of a light dry gravelly soil, and producing a great quantity of long coarse grass, which grows in tufts interspersed with large barren spots of gravel between them. This grass, in many places, feeds very numerous herds of black cattle ; which were first brought over by the *Spaniards*, on their establishing themselves in *Paraguay* ; and they are increased so much, that they are not considered as private property ; but many thousands at a time are slaughtered every year, by the hunters of *Buenos Ayres*, only for their hides and tallow ; who sometimes take these cattle alive in nooses, for the uses of agriculture. There are great numbers of wild dogs, which feed upon the carcases of the dead cattle. The country is also over-run with horses, originally brought there by the *Spaniards*, which run wild like the black

black cattle, and are of such little value, that the best of them when caught, are sold for a dollar a-piece in the neighbouring settlements. These herds of wild cattle, and droves of horses, may increase so much as to fill all the southern parts of this continent with their breed; which must prove of considerable advantage to such ships as touch upon the coast. There are great numbers of *Peruvian* sheep in all parts of this country; with immense quantities of seals; and a great variety of sea fowl, among the most remarkable of which are the penguins. But fresh-water is very scarce; the land being generally of a nitrous and saline nature, which frequently makes the ponds and streams have a brackish taste: though, as good water has been found there in small quantities, it is probable, on a farther search, that the inconvenience may be removed.

THE western coast is not only of less extent; but, on account of the *Andes* * which skirt it, and stretch quite down to the water, is a very rocky and dangerous shore: though it has several considerable rivers that descend from the *Andes*, and water the country in their course to the *South Sea*; the principal of which are, the two *Campanas*, that of the *Giants*, *St. Gillian*, *de los Apostolos*, *de los Martyres*, *de St. Steven*, *Gallegos*, *St. Domingo*, and *Sinfondo*; the last dividing this western part from the south of *Chili*.

THIS country is inhabited by several different nations of *Indians*: but they are very imperfectly known; and have seldom been seen above two or three at a time, by any ships that have touched upon the coast; though, towards *Buenos Ayres*,

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* See this Volume, p. 160.

they are numerous enough to be very troublesome to the *Spaniards* ; appearing, in their manners, to be nearly allied to the *Chilefians*, who have long set the whole *Spanish* power at defiance, have frequently ravaged their country, and to this day retain their independency. The *Pampas* seem to inhabit a considerable part towards the north ; and the *Patagons* another towards the south, who received this name from *Magellan*, on account of their gigantic stature. The *Cessares* are situated between the *Pampas* and the *Patagons*, extending westward beyond the *Andes* ; and are supposed to be the descendants of some *Spaniards*, who were shipwrecked upon the coast, in 1540 ; where they intermixed with the *Indians*, and have formed themselves into a kind of republic. There are also the *Envos* of *Cossi* ; the *Kenemets* of *Karay* ; the *Kennecas* of *Caramay* ; and the *Karaiks* of *Morena* ; with some other nations of a moderate stature, and more polite than the *Chunions*, and *Huillons*, who inhabit the continent and islands about the streights of *Magellan*.

THERE are several bays along these coasts, either formed by nature, or by the many rivers that discharge themselves into the ocean : but little more of them is known than by their situations, which may be sufficiently understood by consulting the map. Those of *Anegada*, *St. Mathias*, *Camarones*, *Port Deure*, and *Port St. Julian*, are the most considerable ; and the last is more so than the rest ; being a convenient rendezvous, in case of separation, for all cruizers bound to the southward, and the whole coast of *Patagonia*, from the river of *Plate* to the streights of *Magellan*, as it lies
nearly

nearly parellel to their usual route, in $63^{\circ} 35'$ of west longitude, and 49° of south latitude, where commodore *Anson* ordered his ships to rendezvous, and take in a supply of salt, in *February* 1741, before he undertook his remarkable passage round *Cape Horn* into the *South Seas*; after which they were ordered, in case of separation,* to cruize off the island of *Nuestra Senora de Socoro*, on the western coast. This squadron left port *St. Julian*, on the 27th of *February*; and, on the 7th of *March*, passed the streights *Le Maire*, on the south-east of *Terra del Fuego*, instead of sailing through the streights of *Magellan*, on the opposite part of that island: but, this was a very improper season of the year to make the passage of *Cape Horn*; to which they were now necessitated by their too late departure from *England*: for, after a continual series of the greatest calamities from the severity of the most tempestuous weather, the whole squadron was separated, and it was the 30th of *April*, before the commodore completed his passage round *Cape Horn*, which should have been made in the height of summer; that is, in the months of *December* and *January*; for the more distant the time of passing is taken from this season, the more disastrous it may be reasonably expected to prove.

THERE are a great many islands all along the three coasts; the largest, and most considerable of which lies on the southern side: those on the east are inconsiderable: nor are those on the west of any great consequence.

I. On the eastern coast are the following islands.

1. *Pepy's Island*; which is situated in $64^{\circ} 20'$ of
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* See this Volume, p. 221.

west longitude, and $47^{\circ} 30'$ of south latitude; about 55 leagues east of *Cape Blanco*, on the continent. 2. The isle of *Penguins*, about three leagues from the shore, and about 18 south of *Cape Blanco*. 3. The three islands of *Sebaeld de Werds*, between $67^{\circ} 20'$, and $67^{\circ} 50'$ of west longitude; and between $50^{\circ} 50'$ and $51^{\circ} 5'$ of south latitude; about 53 leagues south-east of port *St. Julian*. 4. *Falkland's* isles, or *New Islands*, somewhat to the south-west of *Sebaeld de Werds*. All these islands are small; but may be of service for cruizers to the *South Seas*.

PEPY's island was discovered by captain *Cowley*, in 1686, who represents it as a commodious place for ships to wood and water at: he also says, that it is provided with a very good capacious harbour, where a thousand ships might ride at anchor in great safety: it likewise abounds with fowls; and, as the shore is either rocks or sands, it seems to promise great plenty of fish. *Falkland's* isles have been seen by several navigators, and particularly by *Woods Rogers*, who run along the north-east coast, in 1708; and says, that they extended about 120 miles in length; appearing with gentle descents from hill to hill, and seeming to be good ground, interspersed with woods, and not destitute of harbours.

II. THE most considerable islands of all, being on the southern coast, are as follows.

1. *TERRA del FUEGO*, *Fogo*, or *Land of Fire*; being so called, by the first discoverers, on account of some volcanoes, which emitted great quantities of fire and smoke. It is said to be situated between $60^{\circ} 40'$ and $69^{\circ} 20'$ of west longitude;

tude ; and between $52^{\circ} 30'$ and 56° of south latitude : though some writers make its longitude more extensive ; by whose accounts it may be about 480 miles in length from east to west, and about 220 in breadth from north to south. This island is rough and mountainous ; but has several fertile vallies, plains, and pasture grounds, watered with a multitude of fine springs that come down from the mountains. There are several bays and roads, between this and the adjacent islands : the lands abound with wood, and stones for ballast : but the westerly winds are extremely violent and impetuous along the south coast ; so that those who sail westward must be careful to keep as much to the south of them as possible ; for which purpose, the best directions are given in the relation of lord *Anson's* voyage round the world, in the 9th chapter of the 1st book. The inhabitants are naturally as white as the *Europeans* ; but go naked, and paint their bodies with a variety of colours : those on the south side being very uncivilized, cunning, and barbarous : but, those on the other side, are reported to be a poor, harmless, and affable people ; whose cloathing are the skins of beasts ; and their huts are made of poles stuck round about two or three feet into the ground, meeting on the top like a sugar-loaf, and covered with skins, or bark of trees.

2. THE island called *STATEN*, from its having been first discovered by the *Dutch*, is about seven leagues to the east of *Terra del Fuego* ; being divided from it by the streights *La Maire*, which received this name from the first discoverer, who was a merchant of *Amsterdam*, in 1615. These

streights are often esteemed to be the boundary between the *Atlantic* and *Pacific Oceans* ; and are between five and six leagues in length ; through which commodore *Anson* made his passage into the *South Seas*, instead of passing through the streights of *Magellan*, which are above 100 leagues in length, from the cape of the *Virgins* at the entrance of the *North-Sea*, to the cape of *Desire*, at the opposite extremity ; and in some places about 30 leagues over, between the island and the coast of *Patagonia*, though in others not more than a league or two. This island of *Staten* is about 30 miles long, and 16 broad ; having great wildness and horror in its appearance : for it seems to be entirely composed of inaccessible rocks, without the least mixture of earth or mould between them. These rocks terminate in a great number of ragged points, which spire up to a prodigious height, and are perpetually covered with snow : the points themselves are on every side surrounded with frightful precipices, and often overhang in a most astonishing manner ; the hills, which bare them, being generally separated from each other by narrow cliffs, that appear as if the country had been frequently rent by earthquakes ; for these chasms are nearly perpendicular, and extend through the substance of the main rocks, almost to their very bottoms : so that nothing can be imagined more savage and gloomy, than the whole aspect of this coast, which has no inhabitants. But it is to be observed, that mention is made of a passage called *Brewer*, about 13 leagues east of this island, which was the route taken by Mr. *Gwin*, in 1701, in his return from the *South Seas* ; who also discovered

a small island, about 45 leagues north-east of *Staten* island.

THERE are also several other small islands, scattered at different distances from $55^{\circ} 20'$ to $56^{\circ} 40'$ of south latitude, between *Staten* island and *Cape Horn*; being the island of *Cezambre*, *Van-verland*, those of *Evouts*, the *Hermits*, *St. Alfonse*, and *Barneveld's* islands. Besides these, there are some other islands to the north-west of *Cape Horn*, extending along the southern coast of *Terra del Fuego*, as far as the straits of *Magellan*; in which there are likewise a great number of little islands scattered up and down: but none of them are any ways remarkable.

III. THE islands on the eastern coast of *Terra Magellanica*, are parted by very narrow channels from the continent; being as follow.

I. *TRINIDAD*, or *St. Madre de Dios*, is supposed to have received the denomination on account of three mountains, or headlands, that are seen at some distance. It lies in 71 degrees of west longitude; and under the 51st. and 52d. degree of south latitude; being 105 leagues long, and 30 broad: but the inhabitants, who are a rude race of uncivilized *Indians*, called the island *Catana*. The soil is stony, wild, and barren; which obliges the natives to live upon fish, and to drink the oil pressed out of sea wolves. The trees yield a dismal aspect; being blasted by strong winds, parched for want of fresh water, and seldom covered with any verdure. There are also about 80 very small islands, lying upon the western coast of *Trinidad*; with that of *St. Martin*, and some others, to the east; but they are so little known,

that few of them have received any particular name.

2. THE island of *St. BARBARA*, is about 46 leagues north of *Trinidad*, and about seven west from the continent: being about 30 miles long, and 10 broad.

THERE are also the islands of *St. Katherine*, and *Guafo*, or *Nomans*; with several other small inconsiderable islands along the coast, as far as *Chili*: but the island of *Nostra Senora de Socoro*, and those of the *Archipelago* of *Chones*, are included among, and described under, the *Chilean* islands.*

IV. THAT part of *CHILI*, which is in the possession of the native *Indians*, composes a very extensive territory, on both sides the *Andes*, inhabited by several distinct tribes or nations; of whom some account has already been given under the description of *Chili*.† Some of those *Indians* are under a tributary subjection to the *Spaniards*; and others retain their original independency.

THE free *Indians* are very numerous, and inhabit the greatest part of the country, especially towards the mountains. They are the bravest people of all the natives of *America*; strong in body, and intrepid in mind; constant in their resolutions, and prodigal of losing life when they think it necessary to be hazarded for glory or liberty. Their habitations are only huts, made of branches of trees, large enough to shelter a whole family. Their furniture is coarse, and their diet plain; for they despise all superfluities. Their apparel is a sort of a waistcoat of woollen stuff, with drawers of the same that come down to their knees; and they have a kind

* See this Volume, p. 248.
and 251.

† See p. 170, 191, 192, 219,

kind of cloak or mantle when they go abroad ; but use no linnen under their cloaths. They have a circle of wool, of various colours, on their heads ; with fringes hanging from it, which they move in token of respect to their acquaintance : their necks are adorned with strings of shells, which they gather on the shore ; though some of them have pearls curiously wrought ; and others hang little birds, of beautiful colours, to their caps, on each side of which is a plume of feathers about half a yard high. The women partake of the spirit and bravery of the men ; being as abstemious in their living, as patient of fatigue, and as resolute in defence of their country.

THEY have the same way of keeping singular accounts, remarking particular events, and conveying traditional intelligence, as is in use among the *Peruvians*. The people are governed by their respective chiefs ; who claim no authority but in the administration of justice, and commanding their tribes in time of war ; having neither palaces nor revenue ; or any other marks of respect paid them, except in the execution of their office : but they manage the whole affairs of their nation in certain general assemblies, where every question is decided by a majority of voices.

OGILBY says, they are governed by particular chiefs, called *ulmens* and *curacens* ; but these are subject to a governor general, called a *nentoke* or *apucoraw*, who, upon a vacancy, is elected by them, on a formal condition to govern for the common benefit and honour of the state.

THEIR religious tenets are full of absurdities ; and their conceptions of the immortality of the
soul

foul are very imperfect : but they are not such barbarians as the *Spaniards* have represented them ; for they have too much bravery to delight in cruelty, and too much spirit to submit to slavery.

V. THE country of the *AMAZONS* is bounded by the equator, which separates it from *Terra Firma*, on the north ; by *Brazil*, and the *Atlantic Ocean*, on the east ; by *Brazil*, and *Paraguay*, towards the south ; and by *Peru*, on the south-west : lying between 50 and 75 degrees of west longitude, and between the equator and the 15th degree of south latitude.

THIS denomination of the country was given to it from a supposed nation of female warriors, that were reported to inhabit the banks of one of the greatest rivers in the world, which runs from west to east all through this extensive territory : but the *Amazons* were only a nation invented by the *Spaniards*. The country enjoys a more temperate air than could be well expected so near the equator : it abounds in large forests, of ebony, iron wood, logwood, brazil, and cedars ; with some fertile fields, and verdant meadows ; having plantations of tobacco, cotton, sugar, yarn, sarsaparilla, and other roots : there are many rivers that water the country ; but they all of them fall into the great river of the *Amazons*, which rises at the foot of the *Andes*, and falls into the *Atlantic Ocean*.

THE nations who inhabit the banks of these rivers are computed to be about one hundred and fifty ; who have some manufactures of cotton : but delight most in making war upon one another, and taking their prisoners into slavery.

THE *Spaniards*, in 1540, penetrated into this country, under the command of *Gonzalo Pizarro*; who was obliged to return to *Peru*, after losing most of his men on such an unsuccessful expedition: besides, he was deserted by *Francisco de Orellana*, who sailed down the river of the *Amazons*, and proceeded to *Spain*, where he gave such a description of the riches of the country, that his Catholic majesty appointed him governor, and sent him over with a considerable body of forces: though he perished in the enterprize, which was afterwards several times renewed, as well by the *Portuguese* as by the *Spaniards*, but without any success. Nor would success have been equivalent to their trouble: because, they were convinced that there were no mines of gold and silver to be found in this country.

HOWEVER, it is said, the jesuits have entered this country, where they have built thirty-nine towns, and converted several thousands of the inhabitants. They have likewise engraved a map of the river *Amazons*, or *Orellana*, which they call *Maranbon*; and say, it runs 1800 leagues before it falls into the *Atlantic Ocean*, into which it disembogues itself by 84 mouths.

VI. THE country of *POPAYAN*, and the whole province of *Terra Firma*, abound with several nations of *Indians*, governed by their own caziques; who are fond of the retention of that liberty which they have magnanimously preserved against the invading *Spaniards*: for liberty is the greatest blessing that providence can confer upon human nature, as it ennobles the species by inspiring men with the most virtuous sentiments, and encouraging them to the most honourable

honourable actions : therefore, upon the whole, what services have the *Spaniards* conveyed to the world by their conquests in *America*? they have depopulated kingdoms, and murdered millions by the sword; when they pretended to subdue them for the promotion of religion; and when they might have gained infinite more advantage to themselves by the arts of peace.

DISSERTATION II.

Reflections on the PORTUGUESE colony of BRAZIL; the trade there; and the extraction of gold from PORTUGAL.

THE *Portuguese* shewed themselves a penetrating and enterprizing people in their discoveries; which led the way, and suggested the design to *Columbus*: their conquests in the *East Indies* were won and lost with rapidity: but they had better fortune in the *Brazils*, where they recovered their possessions from the *Dutch*, after the *Spaniards* had ruined the trade of *Portugal*, sunk her naval power, and reduced her *American* plantations almost to a state of annihilation.

DON *Emanuel* king of *Portugal*, pretended to be sole lord of the navigation and trade of the *Atlantic Ocean*; which gave occasion to a very warm dispute between *Elizabeth* queen of *England*, and Don *Sebastian* king of *Portugal*; wherein it was apparent, that his *Portuguese* majesty had not acquired such a dominion, by right of occupation, or otherwise,

wise,

wife. Before *Portugal* was annexed to *Spain*, her monarchs were remarkable for their attention to the increase of naval power, the support of their colonies, and whatever might extend their commerce; which facilitated their amazing progress in *India*, whereby they introduced a new channel of trade to the oriental world, and ruined the old one which had been successfully carried on for several years by the *Italians*. But, in 1580, the crown of *Portugal* was seized upon by *Philip II.* of *Spain*, who annexed it to the rest of his dominions; nor had the *Portuguese* an opportunity of shaking off the *Spanish* yoke till 1640, when *John* duke of *Braganza*, by a most amazing revolution, ascended the throne of *Portugal*, and recovered the liberties of his countrymen; who, under the tyranny of *Spain*, were sunk into a miserable state, from whence they were thus happily extricated, and have since recovered their internal strength.

THE colonizing of *Brazil* occasioned the aggrandizement of *Portugal*: but the *Portuguese* were in possession of this extensive province many years before they were sensible of its subterraneous wealth. They expected silver at first, yet found little: though, in 1680, they discovered a great deal of gold in the mountains; which has so much increased the inhabitants of *Brazil*, and enlarged their trade, that it has been imagined the *Portuguese* in that province will, in a few years, be more numerous and opulent than in *Portugal*: for, besides the annual extraction of gold, coined and uncoined, to the value of five millions sterling, the kingdom of *Portugal* receives a great advantage by the importation of the diamonds, sugar, tobacco,
and

and hides of *Brazil*; especially the tobacco, which is esteemed the most valuable in the world.

THE *Portuguese* shewed no great concern, either for extending or improving their territories in *Brazil*, after the expulsion of the *Dutch*, till the Infant Don *Pedro*, the regent of *Portugal*, in 1685, began to think of improving the *American* dominions, and especially the two extremities of *Brazil*, which were well supplied with people in a short time after, who found out the mines of gold.

As the success of their mines and plantations, depends upon the labour of negroes, the *Portuguese* constantly take care to obtain a competent number for this purpose, by virtue of their *African* settlements, which are of greater extent than what is possessed by any other *European* power in that country. It is reported, that they annually carry over 50,000 slaves to *Brazil*, from the eastern coast of *Africa*; and that they have above 200,000 in the country adjacent to the bay of *All Saints*, as also about a third of that number at *Fernambuco*.

IN return for all the wealth brought from *Brazil*, the *Portuguese* send over in every fleet large quantities of all kinds of the richest *European* goods, and especially of *British* manufactures; whereby *Great Britain* obtains a balance of about a million sterling every year from *Portugal*: but the native poverty of the *Portuguese* was so great, on their discovery of the gold mines, that they would have found it impossible to work them, if it had not been for the credit they received from other countries, particularly *Great Britain*, in the necessary commodities for that purpose. As their
returns

returns of bullion augmented, their credit was extended : but, though now much enriched themselves, they still work their very mines, and carry on almost all the colony commerce, as well as much of their home trade, with foreign capitals : for they are credited with all articles of traffic, till the returns arrive; insomuch, that the merchants of other countries stand the disburse of the cost of their goods, and charges of transporting them to *Portugal*, with the duties there, which are very high on most of the articles re-exported.

THE extraction of gold from *Portugal* is prohibited; notwithstanding that kingdom must pay a great balance in bullion to every other nation with which she has any trading connexion. Therefore it is necessary for the *Portuguese* government to consider gold as a commodity, and to wink at its exportation ; without which indulgence to foreigners, the natives could not carry on any of their commerce : for the *Portuguese*, by parting with their gold, enjoy the comforts and elegancies of life ; make a respectful figure in *Europe* ; and are secure, singly from *Great Britain*, of a fuller and safer protection than they could possibly buy from the hire of any number of mercenary troops.

THE general trade to *Portugal* continues to increase among the *European* powers, and it is likely to remain in that situation ; because as the wealth of the *Portuguese* in the *Brazils* is increasing, the number of inhabitants is increased ; for every fleet carries away multitudes of people who improve the country, and consequently will make still larger demands from *Europe* ; whereby *Great Britain* is intitled to have a share equal to the encouragement
the

she gives to the consumption of the wines and fruit of *Portugal*.

UPON the whole, this colony is the most profitable of any in the world: since, considering the proportion between the two kingdoms, *Portugal* draws more profit from the *Brazils*, than *Spain* from both *Mexico* and *Peru*: the whole commercial interest of *Portugal* lies now chiefly in the *West*, as it formerly lay in the *East Indies*: and their strength is so great in *America*, that they have no reason to apprehend any thing from their neighbours; for the only danger to which they are exposed, is from an insurrection of their own negroes, which might be attended with lamentable consequences.

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